

**Nebraska
Historic Buildings Survey
Reconnaissance Survey**

Final Report of

GARDEN COUNTY

NEBRASKA



Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey

Reconnaissance Survey Final Report

of

Garden County, Nebraska

prepared for

Nebraska State Historical Society

State Historic Preservation Office

by

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INTRODUCTION

Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey

The Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey (NEHBS) is an ongoing project of the State Historic Preservation Office. Since its beginnings in 1974 with limited fieldwork by staff and student interns, NEHBS has expanded from a few thousand sites in urban and rural areas to over 40,000 recorded properties in three-fourths of the state. By 1992, the office plans to cover the entire state.

Through its documentation of the state's historic and architectural resources, NEHBS provides a basis for historic preservation in Nebraska. Survey data is used to list buildings in the National Register, which in turn may result in recognition and preservation. NEHBS data is also used to determine needs for further documentation and planning for the state's historic places. A brief description of Historic Preservation Office programs follows.

Equally important, while contributing to the history of the entire state, the survey also promotes local and regional awareness of significant buildings and sites. County officials, historical societies, planning organizations, and individuals are encouraged to use the information for community development, tourism, and historic preservation in their own communities.

National Register

The Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey, which documents historic buildings and places throughout the state, also identifies those that may qualify for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Established in 1966, the National Register is America's official inventory of sites, buildings, and districts, recognized for their importance to national, state, and local history. To qualify for listing, properties must be at least

fifty (50) years old and have associations with one or more of the following: historic events, significant individuals, architecture, or future research potential.

Tax Incentive Program

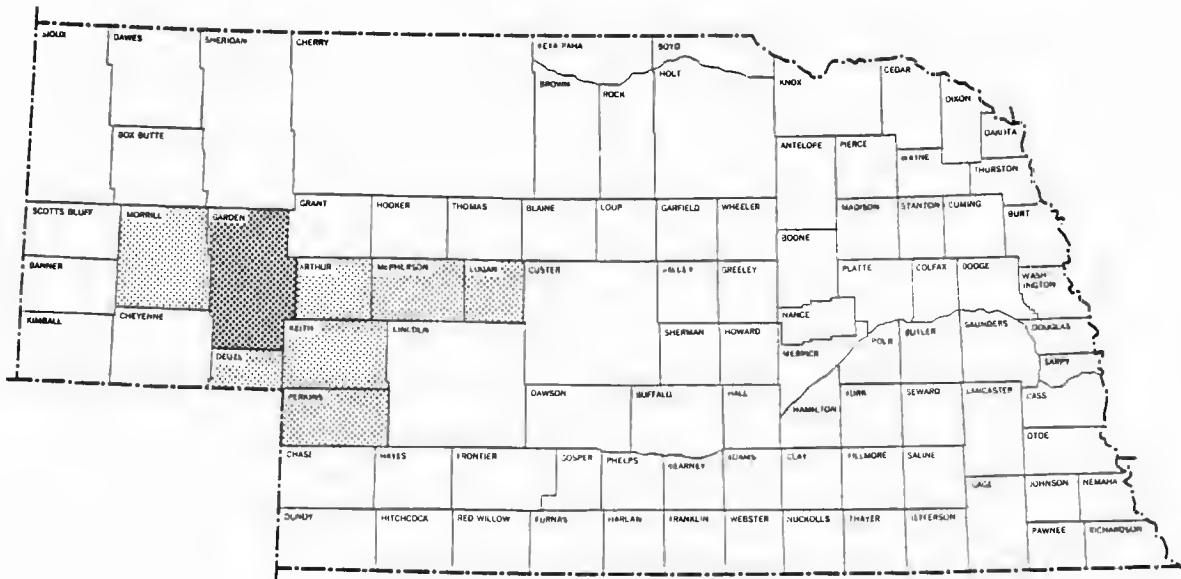
Inclusion in the National Register may enable income-producing properties to qualify for federal tax credits as certified rehabilitation projects. Designed to encourage the reuse and revitalization of historic buildings, neighborhoods, and "main street" districts, the tax incentives have been available since 1976. The program seeks to promote the reuse of historic buildings, including community redevelopment efforts and economic opportunities by retaining the distinctive qualities of buildings or districts.

Review and Compliance

The Historic Buildings Survey is an important source of information for the State Historic Preservation Office and government agencies when complying with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Commonly referred to as "review and compliance," Section 106 was established to ensure the documentation and protection of buildings and sites which may be affected by any federally funded or licensed project, such as highway construction. NEHBS survey data enables preservation staff and federal agencies to evaluate potentially affected properties and upon evaluation, to seek methods to mitigate the effect of these projects on important resources.

These and other programs are administered in Nebraska by the State Historic Preservation Office. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the office.

Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office
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Western Nebraska Sandhills and High Plains Survey Area

The architectural research firm of Save America's Heritage was selected by the Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office (NESHPO) and engaged in a contractual agreement to conduct the Western Nebraska Sandhills and High Plains Historic Buildings Survey. The survey consisted of the completed preliminary fieldwork in eight western Nebraska counties: Morrill, Deuel, Perkins, Keith, Garden, Arthur, McPherson, and Logan. Initiated in September, 1989, the survey was completed in the summer of 1990. With the completion of the eight-county project, the Western Nebraska Sandhills and High Plains were the third region of the state to be completed under the NESHPO's plan for preliminary statewide coverage by 1991-92.

The primary objective of the survey was to provide a preliminary characterization of the historic material resources extant in the western Nebraska region. Another primary objective of the survey was the identification of a definitive group of historic properties judged eligible or potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

The Historic Buildings Survey of Garden County has accomplished this goal by identifying a total of 84 historic properties considered eligible or potentially eligible for the NRHP.

In addition to the completion of these primary goals, several of the survey's secondary goals were also satisfied. These include the identification of specific building types or construction methods which were common or unique to the historic built environment of Nebraska, and the expansion of knowledge regarding ethnic settlement and building technologies.

The following table outlines the numerical results of the Garden County Historic Buildings Survey. The results included in parentheses indicate those properties previously surveyed by the NESHPO. The numbers are summarized according to the NEHBS number prefixes for rural and town locations.

Numerical Summary of Garden County Reconnaissance Survey

GARDEN COUNTY	TOTAL PROPERTIES	CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS	CONTRIBUTING SITES	CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURES	CONTRIBUTING OBJECTS
GD00: Rural	103 (14)	374 (17)	2 (6)	3 (4)	86 (3)
GD01: Lewellen	41	68	0	0	3
GD02: Lisco	19	26	0	0	8
GD03: Oshkosh	67 (3)	104 (3)	0	2	2 (1)
GD04: Rackett	2	3	0	0	0
<hr/>					
TOTAL NUMBER SURVEYED					
IN FY 1989-1990:	232 (17)	575 (20)	2 (6)	5 (4)	99 (4)
TOTAL NEHBS TO DATE:	249	595	8	9	103

Approximated Area of Survey Coverage: 287 square miles (183,440 acres)
 Numbers in parenthesis indicate previously surveyed properties

GARDEN COUNTY HISTORIC OVERVIEW

Physical Description

Garden County is located in the south-central portion of the Nebraska panhandle, and is bordered by Sheridan, Grant, Arthur, Keith, Deuel, Cheyenne, and Morrill Counties. The Platte River divides the county into two distinct regions; to the north lie the vast Sand Hills, and to the south, the High Plains region.

The Sand Hills region of the state is composed of hilly land of low to high sand dunes stabilized by grass cover. These dunes mantle stream-deposited, sand, gravel and sandstone. The sandhills prairie and topography are unique to Nebraska and North America. The region is drained by the Loup River system except along the northern edge which is drained by the Niobrara River. The northern portion of the county is noted for its lakes and Platte River tributaries.

The High Plains region of Nebraska is characterized by flat-lying land composed of sandstone or stream-deposited silt, sand, clay and gravel overlain with loess. The eastern section of the region is also composed of scattered segments of sandhills which, unlike the Sand Hills zone, are stabilized by salsage prairie grasses. High Plains vegetation is exclusively short grass prairie. The Ash Hollow site located near Lewellen, was a major Platte River crossing on the old Oregon Trail. Now an archeological site, Ash Hollow is a narrow canyon which widens and gradually rises to level tableland some three hundred feet above the river (History of Garden County, p. 198).

Original Inhabitants

Prior to nineteenth-century white settlement, the Pawnee and Sioux Native American tribes claimed the land of the Sand Hills as hunting grounds. The two tribes disputed various tracts between themselves. The Pawnee claimed the drainage area of the Loup River

as their hunting grounds and camped near the mouth of the river. The Sioux claimed lands east to the fork of the Platte River and north to the mouth of the White River in South Dakota as their hunting grounds. Both tribes depended on the bison, which roamed the sandhills in vast numbers as their primary source of food and raw material.

Other Native American tribes in Nebraska included the Omaha, Otoe, and Ponca, all of whom were more sedentary than the Sioux or Pawnee. Between 1854 and 1876 all territories in Nebraska claimed by Native American tribes had been acquired by the United States government either through treaty and/or coercion. The final treaty, in 1876, opened the Sand Hills region to settlement.

Settlement of Nebraska

The first Europeans to reach what would become Nebraska were Spanish soldiers in search of mythical Quivira (Olson, 1966, p. 29). By the early 1700's the French had begun to move into the trans-Missouri country. In 1763 the Spanish, through the Treaty of Paris, assumed possession of all land west of the Mississippi River. In 1800, the French took possession of the region under the Treaty of San Ildefonso. However, in 1803 the French, under Napoleon, sold this vast expanse of land to the Americans for about 4 cents an acre, or fifteen million dollars. The Louisiana Purchase, as the exchange was called, included the territory that would become Nebraska.

In 1803, the federal government began plans to initiate exploration of their new possession with the famed Lewis and Clark Expedition. Undertaken "for purposes of extending the external commerce of the United States," Congress appropriated \$2,500.00 for the expedition (Olson, p. 36). In the spring of 1804, members of the exploration team left the St. Louis area and by July 1804, had made their first camp near the mouth of the Little Nemaha River in what would eventually become Nebraska.

The vast area of land obtained through the Louisiana Purchase was designated by Congress in 1834 as land reserved for Native Americans. During the first half of the nineteenth-century, this region was traversed by fur trappers, missionaries, and westward bound settlers. Examples of Pre-Territorial (1804-1854)¹ establishments in Nebraska include Fort Atkinson (1820's) on the Missouri River, and the Moses Merrill Baptist Mission (1833) near Bellevue.

Another important aspect of settlement in Nebraska during the Pre-Territorial Period (1804-1854), was the presence of the Oregon, Mormon, and California Trails; all of which passed through the southern half of the state. These trails passed westward through the Platte River valley and were primarily used between 1841 and 1848. These trails brought many people and opportunities for trade to the region.

Nebraska Territory was officially established in 1854, and the first legislature convened in January, 1855. During the Territorial Period (1854-1867), the majority of settlement took place in the southeast and eastern sections of the state. In this period, settlement occurred through either the provisions of the Pre-Emption Law of 1841, purchase of military bounty land warrants, or by direct purchase. The Homestead Act of 1862 allowed for more liberal disbursement of public domain, and allowed settlers to acquire between 40 and 160 acres of land without the standard per acre fee if they remained on the claim for five years and met a specified level of improvements (i.e. buildings, land under cultivation). A significant amount of settlement in Nebraska occurred primarily under

¹ All Temporal Periods referred to in this text were established by "Historic Contexts in Nebraska, Topical Listing", NESHPO, 1989, and consist of:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) Pre-Territorial, 1804-1854 | 5) Spurious Economic Growth, 1890-1920 |
| 2) Territorial Period, 1854-1867 | 6) The Great Depression, 1929-1941 |
| 3) Settlement and Expansion, 1867-1890 | 7) World War II, 1941-1945 |
| 4) Development and Growth, 1890-1920 | 8) Post-War Nebraska, 1945-Present |

the impetus of the Homestead Act, or later under the provisions of the 1904 Kinkaid Act (for a detailed discussion of the Kinkaid Act, see p. 93).

Nebraska became a state in 1867 with its present borders defined. In the early 1860's, the federal government began planning a trans-continental railway line for the transportation of people and goods which would unite the country. The railroad would extend through Nebraska beginning at a point near Omaha. In 1867, the route was completed when the Union Pacific and Central Pacific lines joined in Utah. Development of the line through Nebraska had a major impact on the settlement and growth of small towns and communities throughout the western region of the state, and the state as a whole. Inland counties, without a railroad through their borders, generally developed at a slower rate and often did not achieve the kinds of settlement and sustained populations in counties through which a line ran. In counties where the railroad extended, towns, or proposed towns, prospered or failed depending on the location of a depot or siding.

While eastern, northeastern, and central regions of the state had been settled during the Settlement and Expansion Period (1867-1890), the Sand Hills region of Nebraska was only just beginning to be settled. This region, encompassing a great portion of western Nebraska north of the Platte River, was generally not suitable for the agricultural activities pursued in the rest of the state. Since the 1870's, cattlemen had free-ranged vast herds in the area. In the late 1860's and early 1870's, Texas cattlemen began to drive their herds north on the Texas Trail to feed in Nebraska. The free-range cattle companies established large ranches in the Sand Hills region and operated until conflicts with the federal government divided the land into smaller homesteads parcels, (for a discussion of the early cattle industry, see Sand Hills Range Livestock Production p. 43).

Although settlement had begun in the Sand Hills region during the Settlement and Expansion era (1867-1890), it was not until the Development and Growth Period in Nebraska

(1890-1920) that significant permanent settlement was established. The most significant impetus for extensive settlement of the Sand Hills during this period was the passage of the Kinkaid Act on June 28, 1904. Designed to encourage settlement in the Sand Hills region, the Kinkaid Act allowed homesteaders to file 640 acre claims, as opposed to the previous 160 acres. This act recognized that the arid Sand Hills region required a larger parcel of land for the application of farming and ranching practices. The Kinkaid Act was responsible for the largest census figures to date (1920) for many of the Sand Hills counties. Although many Kinkaid homesteads eventually sold out to larger ranching endeavors, the act successfully disposed of the public lands in the area.

The social and economic success of the Development and Growth Period (1890-1920) came to an end with the era of the Great Depression (1929-1941). By December 1932, agricultural prices were the lowest in state history; and the farmers' purchasing power continued to decline. Many people left the western section of the state and some towns ceased to exist. Populations declined and much commercial development came to a halt. The end of the Depression, followed by the onset of World War II (1941-1945), combined to stabilize not only the Sand Hills but the state as a whole. Economically, Nebraska benefited from the War through the arrival of new industries. Training facilities, ordnance plants and a bomber production plant were located in the state. As the War drew to a close, a new and lasting prosperity had begun in the state.

Further stability has been witnessed during the Post-War Period in Nebraska, (1946-present). The agricultural prosperity that began during World War II continued on into the 1950's and 1960's. Economic development and increased agricultural technology have vaulted the region into an era of advanced irrigation and range management techniques. So while the number of farms and rural population decreased, agricultural output increased to new highs.

County History

Garden County did not become a separate entity until it was created from a division of Deuel County. In 1875, Garden County was part of an enormous area designated as Cheyenne County. By 1885, the eastern one-third of Cheyenne County had been divided to create Deuel County. Finally, in 1909, Deuel County was further divided to create Garden County.

The federal census for 1870 listed less than 200 people in the vast area of Cheyenne County. The arrival of the railroad and establishment of large free-range ranches encouraged settlement prior to the area's official opening for settlement in 1884, (see Sand Hills Range Livestock Production, p. 43).

Garden County's early permanent settlers included ranchers and individuals associated with the railroad; however, thousands of settlers passed through the area on the Mormon and Oregon Trails. Countless individuals died during the journey west and a few of the graves in the region remain such as Rachel Pattison's in Ash Hollow, (d. June 1845).

The main branch of the Platte River flows through Garden County and prior to the arrival of the railroad, settlement initially occurred along the river. The first boom in settlement occurred between 1884 and 1887, when the towns of Lewellen, Oshkosh, and Lisco were established. Following the turn of the century, two factors greatly contributed to an increase in settlement: enactment of the Kinkaid Act in 1904 and arrival of the railroad in 1907. By 1909, population was sufficient to enable voters to pass the referendum which created Garden County.

County Towns and Settlements

There are three towns in Garden County: Oshkosh, Lewellen, and Lisco. Remnants of former rural post office communities include Rackett and Kowanda.

Oshkosh was designated the county seat in 1910. The community had developed following establishment of the Oshkosh Land and Cattle Company in the late 1880's. The cattle company, formed by five cattlemen from St. Paul, Nebraska, was headquartered in a two-story frame building which contained a company store, post office, drug store, and bank. The second floor space contained a printing office and hotel rooms which were later used as living quarters for the store manager and postmaster.

The Garden County Courthouse was located on the first floor of the Commercial Hotel from 1910 until a referendum was passed in the early 1920's which enabled construction of a new courthouse. Although the arrangement had undoubtedly been viewed as temporary, a vault was added to the first floor of the hotel to contain county records. The Neo-Classical Revival courthouse (GD03-003), completed in 1927, consists of a two-story brick building with raised basement. It has been listed in the National Register of Historic Places under a multiple property nomination of Nebraska county courthouses (Jan., 1990).

Oshkosh's businesses, churches, and community facilities such as schools were developed during the first two decades of the twentieth-century. In Garden County, like other counties in the region, early buildings were often constructed of sod. In the 1890's Oshkosh area students attended school in a sod building located on Lost Creek. After the turn of the century, classes were held in Oshkosh in the Woodman building. In 1905 construction began on a school. Built of native stone, this distinctive school (GD03-002) is maintained by the Garden County Historical Society as a local museum (For further discussion, see Historic Context: Education).

The county high school, located in Oshkosh, was established in a two-story frame building. In the 1920's and 1930's the building was remodelled to accommodate such additions as a shop and gymnasium. The community's library was organized in the early 1920's by the Oshkosh Women's Club and was subsequently located in various buildings

until moving into the city building in 1975. During the early twentieth-century, numerous churches were constructed in Oshkosh: St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, and the First Methodist Church.

The first settler in the Lewellen area arrived in 1884. In 1886, Frank Lewellen began a store and post office a few miles from the present town site. A steel bridge was constructed across the Platte River in 1891, facilitating transport of raw goods, building materials, and people. Constructed by the St. Joseph Bridge and Boiler Company, this structure was a major determinant in the success of Lewellen's economic development. In 1906 the village was officially platted and by 1907 the railroad had reached Lewellen, further securing its future.

The post office, first located in Mr. Lewellen's store, moved to various locations until the construction of a brick post office in the 1920's. Also constructed in 1920's was the Lewellen Elementary School (GD01-001). This two-story, with raised basement brick building of the "modern" school type has been deemed eligible to the National Register of Historic Places and is discussed further in the Education Inventory. In addition to the elementary school, a one-story brick high school, designed by North Platte architect Robert L. Murphy and completed in 1958, continue to serve the community.

Lewellen's period of initial development culminated during the latter teens up through the early 1920's. During this time, the town's "landmark" buildings would be constructed including Grace Lutheran Church (GD01-011), the former Egger Hotel (GD01-022), and the Bank of Lewellen (GD01-019). While the Grace Lutheran Church and the Bank of Lewellen still serve their historic purpose, the Egger Hotel no longer operates as a hotel but still serves as an important contributor to retail business. These buildings, in addition to other significant properties, are discussed further in the corresponding Historic Context summaries and Preliminary Inventories.

Another boon to Lewellen's economy came after the completion of the George P. Kingsley Dam and creation of Lake McConaughy in 1941. Located only five miles west of the lake, Lewellen took advantage of its proximity; accommodations developed for travel and tourism. The abandoned Oregon Trail Motel (GD01-032) and the former Big Mac Cabins (GD01-041) are two properties that resulted from the popularity of Lake McConaughy. It was also during this time that the Garden County fairgrounds (GD01-028) and the Beard Memorial Park (GD01-031) were redeveloped with help from the Works Progress Administration (WPA).

William "Bill" Lisco, one of the first cowboys in the area to ride the range, took claim in the area which would later become the town bearing his and his brother's namesake. Rueben Lisco platted the town in 1909 after the Union Pacific Railroad reached Lisco in the fall of 1908 and constructed a depot soon after. The construction of a bridge over the Platte River in 1912 also encouraged settlement. A small frame general store/post office/bank known as the Lisco Mercantile Company was built near the Lisco ranch house by Rueben. In 1910, Rueben constructed an impressive two-story cement building (razed in 1974) near the present day Legion Hall. This building housed Rueben's mercantile business and bank. Within a period of 10 years, the town of Lisco experienced its most influential development and boasted its own post office, hotel, grocery store, pool hall, and restaurants. Though many of these buildings are no longer standing, properties identified in the reconnaissance survey include: Lisco Blacksmith Shop and Livery Stable (GD02-002), a one-story brick building constructed in 1909; Mitchell Garage (GD02-003), a one-story stuccoed garage built circa 1919 and used since 1946 as the Lisco community hall and American Legion; and the former Sterling Lumber Company (GD02-001), a one-story brick building built in 1919.

In addition to businesses, schools and churches were also established during the Development and Growth period. In 1922 a public elementary school was constructed, (GD02-017, See Education Context Preliminary Inventory), and dedicated in memory of Oregon

Trail pioneers. An addition, including classrooms, gymnasium, lunchroom, and auditorium was completed in 1964. Saint Gall's Catholic Church (GD02-015), completed in 1916, consists of a frame, hall-type church with central bell-tower entry. Saint Gall's continues to serve Lisco and the surrounding region.

State Highway 92 which runs east/west has provided Oshkosh, Lewellen and Lisco with additional economic opportunities. Automobile related properties such as service stations, cafes, and in Oshkosh,-- motels-- are important to the financial security of these towns even though they lacked the criteria for reconnaissance survey.

Agriculture and Ranching

Garden County is divided into the Sand Hills region (H.C.: 08.08) in the north and the High Plains (H.C.: 08.07) region in the south. Characterized by grass covered sand dunes and numerous lakes, northern Garden County provides excellent land for cattle grazing. The southern portion of Garden County, approximately three hundred feet higher in elevation than the North Platte River bottom, lends itself to wheat crop production and diversified farming (see Historic Context: Agriculture).

Center pivot irrigation made alfalfa, wheat, corn, and other grain crops profitable. In 1916, sugar beets were introduced into the region and have become a good money-making crop with beet dumps being erected in Oshkosh.

Events such as the Great Depression, the drought of the 1930's and later, the recession of the 1980's, has affected farming and ranching in Garden County by creating large ranches consisting of thousands of acres. As these farming/ranching operations have increased in size, the rural population continues to decrease.

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GENERAL SUMMARY OF SURVEY RESULTS

Introduction

The primary objective of the Garden County Historic Buildings Survey was to provide a preliminary characterization of the historic resources extant within the county. In addition to this, several other objectives were identified in the Research Design which utilize the data collected by the survey and validate the need for its performance. First among these additional objectives was the contribution of information to the contextual setting of Nebraska's historic architecture. The performance of the Garden County Historic Buildings Survey has generated information which contributes to a statewide knowledge and builds a background with which future survey information can be evaluated.

Secondly, it was the objective of the Garden County Historic Buildings Survey to identify those properties within the county which are eligible or potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Additional objectives of the survey included: the identification of specific properties or geographic areas which, in the event of an intensive survey, would contribute useful information to the context of Nebraska's historic architecture; the identification of specific property types; the identification of construction methods which may relate to or are unique to those existing in the NEHBS database, and the expansion of knowledge regarding ethnic settlement, building technologies and architectural image.

In addition to these conceptual objectives, the Garden County Historic Buildings Survey was intended to fulfill several numerical objectives as stated in the Research Design. These quantitative objectives consisted of:

- A. The recording of an estimated 250 properties in Garden County at the completion of the survey.

- B. The coverage of approximately 220,800 acres (345 square miles) in Garden County. In addition, each street of the three Garden County communities will be surveyed using reconnaissance survey methods.
- C. Identification of at least 50 properties worthy of nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.
- D. Identification of at least two possible Historic District or Multiple Property nominations eligible for National Register listing.
- E. Evaluating by the following hierarchy those properties which are eligible (E) or potentially eligible (P) for listing in the National Register, and those properties which contribute (C) to the database of extant material resources in the county.

A post-survey evaluation of these goals reveals that the Garden County Historic Buildings Survey has successfully satisfied its preliminary objectives. The satisfaction of these goals can be expressed in two quantifiable terms: numerical and geographic. Each street of the three Garden County communities and nearly every public rural road was surveyed using reconnaissance survey methods. The numbers produced by the survey are indicative of the comprehensive nature with which the survey was performed. A total of 681 contributing buildings, structures, objects and sites were documented on 232 individual properties. The survey canvassed approximately 183,440 acres (287 square miles) and identified 84 properties eligible or potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

The Historic Buildings Survey of Garden County has produced a diverse collection of historic material resources. This diversity of these resources is expressed in the range of Historic Contexts and Associated Property Types represented in the database of the

surveyed properties. The list of Historic Contexts recorded by the reconnaissance level survey includes the following themes as defined by the NESHPO (Historic Contexts in Nebraska--Topical Listing, 1989).

Historic Context	Properties	# of
02.00.	Religion: Religious/Ceremonial	2
02.01.01.	Religion: Roman Catholic Church in Nebraska	1
02.03.01.	Religion: Lutheran Church in Nebraska	1
02.04.01.	Religion: Presbyterian Church in America, in Nebraska	1
02.06.01.	Religion: Methodist Episcopal Church in Nebraska	1
03.07.	Aesthetic Systems: Landscape Architecture	1
03.13.02.	Aesthetic Systems: Historic Trail Markers	1
04.03.	Government: County Government	1
05.02.	Association: Service Associations, VFW	1
05.03.01	Association: The Grange	2
06.01.	Education: Schooling	1
06.01.01.	Education: Rural Education	4
06.01.02.	Education: Elementary Education	2
07.03	Diversion: Fairs and Expositions	1
07.05	Diversion: Travel and Tourism	2
07.06.	Diversion: Leisure and Recreation	3
07.07.	Diversion: Entertainment	1

Historic Context	# of Properties
08.07. High Plains Cash Grain, Livestock, and Potato Production	39
08.08. Agriculture: Sand Hills Range Livestock Production	33
12.02.07. Commerce: Retail Commerce in the High Plains Region	10
12.05. Commerce: Specialized Agriculture	2
13.02. Transportation: Roads	7
13.02.01. Transportation: Trails	1
13.03.01. Transportation: Rail Transportation, Union Pacific	2
15.01. Services: Public Utilities	1
15.05.03. Services: Financial	2
16.05. Settlement: Dwelling in Dispersed and Clustered Settlement	119

A Topical Discussion and Preliminary Inventory of Garden County Historic Properties

The following discussion consists of a topical summary and Preliminary Inventory of historic properties documented during the Garden County Historic Buildings Survey. This discussion is arranged according to the Topical Listing of Historic Contexts developed by the Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office (NESHPO, 1990). It includes summaries only of those historic contexts associated with properties judged eligible or potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Included at the end of each context summary is a photographic inventory of properties which appear eligible or potentially eligible for National Register. The properties judged eligible generally precede those considered potentially eligible. The properties labeled "potentially eligible" are included in the inventory for purposes of defining those buildings that may lack the significance or integrity for NRHP listing but which help define the character of the historic built environment of Garden County. In addition, those properties already listed on the NRHP are included in the inventory according to their respective context.

Historic Context: Religion

The contextual topic of Religion encompasses any cultural manifestation relative to the faithful devotion of an acknowledged deity. This includes any social entity relating to sacred organizations and rituals or considered a sacred place. In terms of historic buildings and structures, this includes churches, parsonage-rectories, cemeteries, fellowship halls, and schools.

The Historic Buildings Survey of Garden County encountered a significant lack of historic integrity among the numerous extant religious properties. The most frequent non-contributing characteristics included altered materials, large additions, and relocation.

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Consequently, only six (6) properties associated with the context of Religion met the criteria for the reconnaissance survey of Garden County.

Among the six recorded properties, the Antelope Valley Cemetery & Church (GD00-083) and Saint Gall Catholic Church (GD02-015) were considered eligible for National Register listing. In addition, Grace Lutheran Church in Lewellen and a future research church in Oshkosh (GD03-018) were considered potentially eligible to the National Register. The following table outlines basic data regarding the six surveyed properties.

NEHBS NUMBER	DATE C	RESOURCE/COMMON NAME	HISTORIC CONTEXT	CONTRIBUTING			PROPERTY OBJ. TYPE	DOE
				BLDG	SITE	STRU.		
GD03-018	C1910	CHURCH	02.	2	0	0	02.1.4, 02.4.3	P
GD00-083	C1910	ANTELOPE VALLEY CHURCH & CEM.	02.00	1	1	0	02.1.4, 02.3.1	E
GD02-015	C1915	ST. GALL CATHOLIC CHURCH	02.01.01	1	0	0	02.1.4:1	E
GD01-011	C1916	GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH	02.03.01	1	0	0	02.1.4	P
GD02-011	C1922	CHURCH & PARSONAGE	02.04.01	1	0	0	02.4.3	C
GD00-029	C1922	KOWANDA M.E. CHURCH & CEM.	02.06.01	1	1	0	02.1.2, 02.3.1	C

Antelope Valley Church consists of one-story church built from native, rough-cut sandstone. It contains a corner bell tower entry with fishscale shingles, and stone lintels over window and door openings. After being unoccupied for several years, community leaders organized a Sunday school in the Antelope Valley Church in 1947. The church and cemetery retain a high degree of integrity and are important contributors to the contextual development of Religion in Garden County. Saint Gall Catholic Church in Lisco consists of a one-story, frame church with central bell-tower entry. The church was constructed in 1915 at a cost of \$3,000 with funds from the Catholic Extension Society and the parishioners. In 1956 the church was enlarged and a basement added. Saint Gall has retained historic integrity despite alterations and remodelling throughout its 75 year

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history and contributes to the historic fabric of Lisco. These two eligible properties and the two potentially eligible properties are illustrated in the following pages.

NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-083 Rural
DATE: C.1910
RESOURCE NAME: Antelope Valley Church/Cemetery
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Religion (02.00)
PROPERTY TYPE: Church (02.1.4)
 Cemetery (02.3.1)

DOE: Eligible
Rural stone church important in the development of religious practice in Garden County. The church property also contains a contributing cemetery.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD02-015 Lisco
DATE: C.1915
RESOURCE NAME: St. Gall Catholic Church
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Religion (02.01.01)
PROPERTY TYPE: Hall Type Church (02.1.4:1)
DOE: Eligible
Chosen for the Preliminary Inventory as a
locally significant architectural landmark in
the town of Lisco. Well-preserved example of a
Hall Type Church (02.1.4:1).



NEHBS NUMBER: GD03-018 **Oshkosh**
DATE: C.1910
COMMON NAME: Church
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Religion (02.)
PROPERTY TYPE: Church (02.1.4)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
Early twentieth-century church built during Oshkosh's settlement period. Potentially significant for contributions to the historic development of religion in Oshkosh.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD01-011 **Lewellen**

DATE: C.1916

RESOURCE NAME: Grace Lutheran Church

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Religion (02.03.01)

PROPERTY TYPE: Church (02.1.4)

DOE: Potentially Eligible

Despite a recent east addition, this concrete block church with corner bell tower entry represents historic religious practices in Lewellen. Retains historic function.



Historic Context: Aesthetic Systems

The Historic Context of Aesthetic Systems involves the application of skill to production according to aesthetic principles. Specific considerations within this context include: the performing arts of music, dance, theater, and oratory; the visual arts of sculpture, painting, and decorative arts; and various forms of literature such as myths, legends, and tales. The physical manifestation of these aesthetic components can be quite broad and open-ended. In terms of the Garden County Historic Buildings Survey, three (3) objects were recorded which exhibit association to the Aesthetic Systems context. The following table outlines the basic data of these three objects.

NEHBS NUMBER	DATE	RESOURCE/COMMON NAME	HISTORIC CONTEXT	CONTRIBUTING			PROPERTY TYPE	DOE
				BLDG	SITE	STRU. OBJ.		
GD01-021	1925	FLAGPOLE	03.07	0	0	0	1	07.3.1.2
GD00-103	1931	OREGON TRAIL MARKER	03.13.02	0	0	0	1	07.5.1.2.5
GD00-116	1913	OREGON TRAIL MARKER	03.13.02	0	0	0	1	07.5.1.2.5

The three Aesthetic System objects recorded in Garden County have been preliminarily associated with the sub-context of Sculpture (H.C.: 03.13) and Landscape Architecture (H.C.: 03.07). Of the three objects recorded by the survey, one (GD00-103) has been judged eligible for National Register listing and is included in the Preliminary Inventory

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which follows. This object consists of a concrete marker with inset bronze medallion commemorating the route of the Oregon Trail. Location of the Oregon Trail through Garden County illustrates one of the more significant aspects of county history during the Pre-Territorial (1804-1854) and Territorial (1854-1867) periods in Nebraska. In the 1930's, various historical associations commemorated the Oregon Trail and other historic trails through the erection of the markers across the state. GD00-103 is one such representative and is presented on the following page.

NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-103 Rural
DATE: 1931
COMMON NAME: Oregon Trail Marker
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Aesthetic System (03.13.02)
PROPERTY TYPE: Monument (07.5.1.2.5)
DOE: Eligible
Tombstone shaped monument of concrete with bronze inset medallion depicting a covered wagon. One in a series of historic trail markers which pay tribute to early travel routes.



Historic Context: Government

The contextual topic of Government encompasses the art or science of established government as well as competition between interest groups for leadership of local, state, or national government. Associated historic buildings include post offices, courthouses, community halls, and fire stations. Typically, the recording of buildings which pertain to this context has been somewhat low due presumably to the fact that it only takes one or two of these buildings to satisfy the governing needs of small communities.

The Historic Buildings Survey of Garden County did not identify any historic properties associated with Government which met the criteria of reconnaissance level survey. However,

the Garden County Courthouse (GD03-003), built in 1927, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as part of a statewide multiple property nomination of Nebraska county courthouses.

NEHBS NUMBER: GD03-003 Oshkosh

DATE: 1927

COMMON NAME: Garden County Courthouse

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Government (04.03)

PROPERTY TYPE: Courthouse (04.1.7)

DOE: National Register, 1990

One of many courthouse structures listed in the National Register under the Multiple Property Nomination of Nebraska Courthouses. Important in the historic development of Garden County Government.



Historic Context: Association

The contextual theme of association refers to institutionally patterned interaction among people. Association covers a large group of these institutionalized affiliations including, among others; fraternal, service, special interest, trade, political, social, humanitarian, religious, educational, and business organizations.

The Garden County Historic Buildings Survey found three properties associated with this context that met the criteria for reconnaissance survey. A fourth property, the A.F. & A.M./Commercial Building in Oshkosh (GD03-059), was deemed as a contributor to the context of Association, however, because of its mixed-use expression, primary emphasis was placed upon its association with Commerce. This property is deemed eligible to the National Register and is further discussed in the Commerce preliminary inventory. Pertinent information regarding the three Association properties in Garden County is outlined in table on the following page.

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NEHBS NUMBER	DATE	RESOURCE/COMMON NAME	HISTORIC CONTEXT	CONTRIBUTING			PROPERTY STRU. OBJ. TYPE	DOE
				BLDG	SITE	STRU.		
GD03-031	C1945	GARDEN CO. VFW POST #5379	05.02	1	0	0	05.1.1	P
GD04-002	C1926	FORMER RACKETT GRANGE #318	05.03.01	2	0	0	05.1.1	P
GD00-011	C1928	ANTELOPE VALLEY GRANGE	05.03.01	1	0	0	05.1.1	E

The Antelope Valley Grange (GD00-011; previously surveyed by NESHPO) and the Rackett Grange #318 (GD04-002) are respectively considered eligible and potentially eligible to the National Register. Formally known as The Order of the Patrons of Husbandry, "The Grange" is America's oldest farm organization and the only rural fraternity in the world. With the national formation in 1867, the Grange's objectives strove for better business, education, and social activities. Granges organized cooperatives which often meant the buying and selling of goods at a considerable savings. From 1873 to 1876, the percentage of population belonging Grange organizations was higher in Nebraska than any other state. Both Grange buildings identified in the reconnaissance survey of Garden County consist of one-story frame, hall-type buildings with false fronts. Though the halls have not served as Granges for some time, both buildings remain in good condition and retain a high degree of historic integrity. The third property recorded under this context has also been determined worthy of preliminary inventory discussion. The Garden County VFW Post #5379 (GD03-031) consists of a one-story cement block building with gable roof. It is important for contributions made to the sub-context (H.C.: 05.02) and property type development (P.T.: 05.1.1.). The inventory of eligible Association properties begins on the following page.

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NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-011 **Rural**

DATE: C.1928

RESOURCE NAME: Antelope Valley Grange

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Association (05.03.01)

PROPERTY TYPE: Hall (05.1.1)

DOE: Eligible

Frame false front hall building used by The Order Of the Patrons of Husbandry (The Grange), America's oldest farm organization and the only rural fraternity in the world.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD04-002 **Rackett**

DATE: C.1926

RESOURCE NAME: Rackett Grange Hall #318

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Association (05.03.01)

PROPERTY TYPE: Hall (05.1.1)

DOE: Potentially Eligible

One of two grange halls identified in the High Plains/Western Sandhills Survey Region. The first meeting of the Rackett Grange was called to order on October 25, 1924.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD03-031 **Oshkosh**

DATE: C.1945

RESOURCE NAME: Garden County VFW Post #5379

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Association (05.02)

PROPERTY TYPE: Hall (05.1.1)

DOE: Potentially Eligible

One-story cement block building built during the World War II Temporal Period (See Topical Listing: NESHPO, 1990). Post #5379 was chartered on the 6th day of January 1946.



Historic Context: Education

The contextual topic of Education encompasses any act or process which imparts or aids in the acquisition of knowledge. The primary emphasis of this context is focused upon the components of schooling and enrichment. Historic buildings which fit this context include schools, libraries, and museums. Considerations include formal apprenticeship and enculturation; primary, elementary, junior, and senior high schools, colleges and universities; vocational, adult, continuing, specialty and professional education.

The Historic Buildings Survey of Garden County found five (5) properties relating to the context of Education which met the criteria for reconnaissance level survey. In addition to these five properties, two other school buildings (GD03-002, GD00-010) were previously surveyed by the NESHPO in 1975 and 1981 respectively. Among the seven total Education properties recorded in the Garden County database, three (3) were considered eligible and two (2) potentially eligible for National Register listing. These eligible properties are illustrated in the Education inventory which follows this summary.

The seven Education properties recorded in Garden County relate to the sub-contexts of Rural Education (H.C.: 06.01.01), and Elementary Education (H.C.: 06.01.02). Consistent with the pattern established by previous historic buildings surveys in Nebraska, school buildings recorded in Garden County fit into one of two distinct form types: a simple one-room frame hall-type building, or a larger-scale masonry building.

Predominantly found in the rural environs, Garden County's one-room hall-type schools appear to have been constructed primarily between 1905 and 1922. These buildings consist of one-story rectangular-shaped structures with a gable-end entry and are protected by a gable roof placed in longitudinal orientation to the road. School buildings recorded in

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Garden County which fit this type are: GD03-002, GD00-112, GD00-110, GD00-106, and
GD00-048.

The second type of school building identified in NEHBS projects is the "modern" school which generally consists of larger scale brick masonry buildings found primarily in town locations. These buildings were generally built between 1919 and 1930 and consist of a raised basement two-story masonry structure occupying the grounds of a single town block. Education properties recorded in Garden County which portray the "modern" school characteristics include: GD01-001 and GD02-017.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-106 **Rural**
DATE: C.1938
COMMON NAME: Former School
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Education (06.01.01)
PROPERTY TYPE: Hall Type School (06.3.1:1)
DOE: Eligible
Rural-based schoolhouse selected for potential listing based on an association with the establishment of public education in south-central Garden County.



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NEHBS NUMBER: GD01-001 **Lewellen**

DATE: 1920

RESOURCE NAME: Lewellen Elementary School

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Education (06.01.01)

PROPERTY TYPE: Grade School (06.3.2)

DOE: Eligible

The Lewellen Elementary School reflects the importance of public education to the communities of Garden County through the construction of substantial masonry school buildings.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-048 **Rural**

DATE: C.1918

COMMON NAME: Abandoned School

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Education (06.01.01)

PROPERTY TYPE: Hall Type School (06.3.1:1)

DOE: Potentially Eligible

Frame hall-type school potentially eligible to the National Register for its association with rural education during the period of Development and Growth in Garden County.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD02-017 **Lisco**

DATE: 1922

RESOURCE NAME: Lisco Grade School

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Education (06.01.02)

PROPERTY TYPE: Grade School (06.3.2)

DOE: Potentially Eligible

One-story brick school building with raised based important to the development of education in Lisco. Excellent example of the "Modern" type school building.



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Historic Context: Diversion

The context of diversion encompasses any activity which relaxes and amuses. Considerations include recreation and entertainment; sport and travel; participating and spectating. A broad range of properties fall under this context from cultural centers and conservatories to nightclubs and drive-in theaters.

The Historic Buildings Survey of Garden County found five (5) properties associated with the context of Diversion which met the criteria for reconnaissance level survey. In addition, three other Diversion related properties (GD03-001, GD00-007 and GD00-008) were previously surveyed by the NESHPO. Among the eight total surveyed properties, three have been judged potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places: GD01-041; Former Little Mac Cabins in Lewellen, GD03-064; Former Pool Hall in Oshkosh, and GD03-001; Former Oshkosh Opera House. The eight properties surveyed relate to the sub-contexts of Fairs and Expositions (H.C.: 07.03), Travel and Tourism (H.C.: 07.05), Leisure and Recreation (H.C.: 07.06) and Entertainment (07.07). Pertinent information regarding the eight surveyed Diversion properties is outlined in the following table.

NEHBS NUMBER	DATE	RESOURCE/COMMON NAME	HISTORIC CONTEXT	CONTRIBUTING			PROPERTY TYPE	DOE
				BLDG	SITE	STRU. OBJ.		
GD01-028	C1936	FAIRGROUNDS	07.03	3	0	0	1	07.4.5
GD01-032	C1946	ABAN OREGON TRAIL MOTEL	07.05, 13	3	0	0	0	12.3.2
GD01-041	C1940	FORMER LITTLE MAC CABINS	07.05, 13	5	0	0	0	12.3.2
GD03-064	C1925	FORMER POOL HALL	07.06	1	0	0	0	07.6.6
GD01-031	C1936	CARL BEARD MEMORIAL PARK	07.06	0	0	0	1	07.5.1.2
GD00-007,8C1935		CRESCENT LAKE WILDLIFE REFUGE	07.06	2	1	0	0	07.2
GD03-001	C1906	FORMER OSHKOSH OPERA HOUSE	07.07	1	0	0	1	07.1.4

Two former lodging accommodations (GD01-032 & GD01-041) were determined more significant under the context of Diversion for associations with Lake McConaughy travel

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and tourism. Both properties can also be associated with Transportation; contributing to the development of automobile related properties in Garden County. The previously surveyed former Oshkosh Opera House/Silver Hill Movie Theater (GD03-001) was denied National Register listing in 1981 due to building alterations. Alterations included; closing of original interior remodeling, closing original window openings and installing grilles on some of the windows.

Typically, the number of Diversion properties documented in a reconnaissance survey are relatively low. This is attributed to the fact that, unlike houses or commercial buildings, a community of smaller population only required one or two entertainment related buildings. These were most commonly either theaters, opera houses or taverns. Compounding the infrequent survey of these buildings is the fact that often times they occupied the second floor of a two-story "Main Street" commercial building thus disguising their dual function to the uninformed surveyor.

NEHBS NUMBER: GD03-001 Oshkosh
DATE: 1907
COMMON NAME: Former Opera house/Movie Theater
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Diversion (07.07)
PROPERTY TYPE: Opera House (07.1.4)
 Stone Masonry (11.4.3:3)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
Previously surveyed by the NESHPO. Converted in the 1920's into the Silver Hill Movie Theater. Since 1973, the barn-shaped building has served as the Garden County Museum.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD01-041 Lewellen
DATE: C.1940
COMMON NAME: Former Little Mac Cabins
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Diversion (07.05)
PROPERTY TYPE: Motel (12.3.2)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
 Important in the development of travel and tourism accommodations near Lake McConaughy.
 Despite deterioration, GD01-041 represents early tourism practice in Garden County.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD03-064 Oshkosh
DATE: C.1925
COMMON NAME: Former Pool Hall
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Diversion (07.06)
PROPERTY TYPE: Pool Hall (07.6.6)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
 One-story building significant for associations with Leisure and Recreation in the town of Oshkosh. Contributes to the locally rare pool hall property type (P.T.: 07.6.6).



Historic Context: Agriculture

The historic contexts relating to the theme of agriculture will obviously be of great variety and importance to Nebraska. As a predominantly agrarian-based society, the economic well-being of the state is, in part, dependent upon the production of crops and livestock. Like other Nebraska counties, the settlement of Garden County was correspondent to the agricultural success of the early permanent settlers. Consequently, documentation of historic agricultural properties in Garden County was an important and numerically significant task. Bearing this out is the fact that a total of seventy (70) individual

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properties associated with the agriculture context were documented by the 1989-90 Historic Buildings Survey of Garden County. These seventy properties accounted for 496 contributing buildings, structures and objects. In addition, two (2) rural properties with association to the agriculture context were previously surveyed by the NESHPO (GD00-013, and GD03-014) adding an additional 12 contributing buildings, structures, and objects. Of the 72 total agriculture related properties in the Garden County database, ten (10) have been judged eligible for National Register listing with an additional sixteen (16) properties considered potentially eligible for such listing. These judgements are based on reconnaissance survey observations and must be confirmed by NESHPO staff pending further research.

The farmsteads documented by the survey are collectively viewed as important material resources for the state of Nebraska. They portray the raw materials of a people and an industry responsible for the settlement of a vast portion of our state. The continued existence of some of the farmsteads documented in Garden County is, however, doubtful. In fact, one-third (33.3%) of the seventy-two agriculture properties recorded by the survey consisted of abandoned farms or farm houses. The majority of these farms range in their era of construction from approximately 1890 to 1930. They contain the basic buildings necessary for crop and animal production such as livestock barns, loafing sheds, granaries, cribs, implement sheds, root crop cellars, and hay barns.

Particular emphasis was placed on the observance of farm properties relating to High Plains Cash Grain, Livestock and Potato Production (H.C.: 08.07), and Sand Hills Range Livestock Production agriculture (H.C.: 08.08). These two farming types were identified by the NESHPO as the predominant types of agriculture practised in Garden County (see Historic Contexts in Nebraska--Topical Listing, 1989). In consideration of their importance to the

material resources found in Garden County, the aformentioned agriculture historic contexts are discussed in greater detail in the following summary.

AGRICULTURE HISTORIC CONTEXTS IN GARDEN COUNTY

Introduction

Nebraska is a state of great diversity. Diversities exist among its people, its lands, its topography and, of more immediate concern to this discussion, its agriculture. The agricultural diversity of the state of Nebraska has been forged through one hundred years of adaptation and evolution in a land once labeled the "Great American Desert." During this time, the "desert" waste of Nebraska has been transformed into some of the most productive farm and ranch land in the United States.

The diversity of the agricultural industry in Nebraska is evident not only in geographic location but in historical development as well. The study of the various agricultural practises in Nebraska was first addressed in the 1930's by scientists from the University of Nebraska College of Agriculture. Their efforts focused upon defining a conceptual framework which would represent agriculture throughout the state. The result was the identification of type-of-farming, or system-of-farming areas which characterize regions by cropping and livestock systems. Publication of the type-of-farming definitions appeared in Research Bulletins issued by the College of Agriculture Experiment Station.

The term "type-of-farming" is used to describe a group of farms which are similar in size and enterprise combination. In this way, a group of farms having the same kind, quantity, and proportion of crops and livestock may be said to be following the same type of farming (Hedges and Elliott, p. 3). Likewise, the term type-of-farming area, refers to

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a region which contains a high degree of uniformity in agricultural production and physical and economic conditions under which production takes place.

The boundaries of the type areas do not conform to imposed government boundaries. In most cases, the transition from one region to another is gradual. The differences between the regions lie mainly in the dominant enterprises and their relative importance in the farming systems. In addition, variations within specific regions may differ as a result of terrain, soil types, and relative size of farms. In these cases, the definition of each type-of-farming area identifies the dominant farm system and the significant variations of that system within the region.

The boundaries delineated by the Agriculture College Research Bulletins (No. 244, Hedges and Elliott, May 1930; & No. 299, LF. Garey, May 1936) were modified by the NESHPO to incorporate the regions into a framework suitable for preservation planning and historic context development. The framework developed by the NESHPO uses the characterization of agricultural activity in Nebraska as a tool in identifying, evaluating, and nominating significant historic resources to the National Register of Historic Places. Using the Research Bulletins as a basis, the NESHPO developed a ten region agricultural and geographic definition of the state. The ten areas redefined by the NESHPO and incorporated into Historic Context framework are:

1. Southeastern General Farming (08.01),
2. Northeastern Intensive Livestock Production, (8.02),
3. Lower Niobrara Livestock, Wild Hay and Cash Grain Production (08.03),
4. Loess Hills Livestock, General Farming, and Cash Grain Production (08.04),
5. Central Plains Cash Grain and Livestock Production (08.05),
6. Republican Valley General Farming, Cash Grain, and Livestock Production (08.06),
7. High Plains Cash Grain, Livestock and Potato Production (08.07),
8. Sand Hills Range Livestock

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Production (08.08), 9. Pine Ridge Range Livestock, Cash Grain and Potato Production (08.09), 10. Scottsbluff Livestock, Cash Grain and Root Crop Production (08.10).

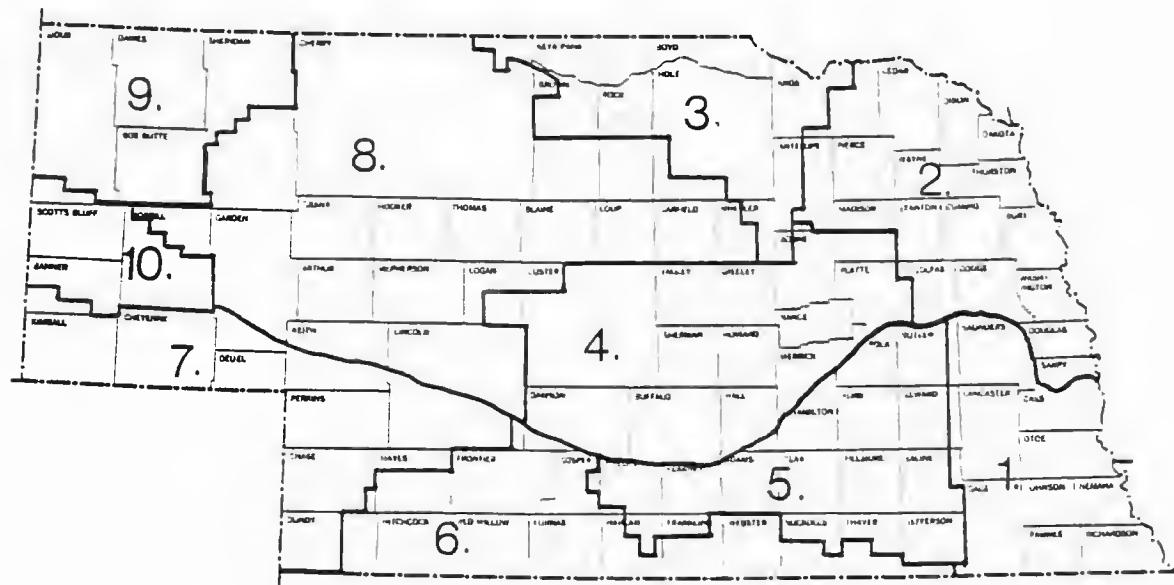
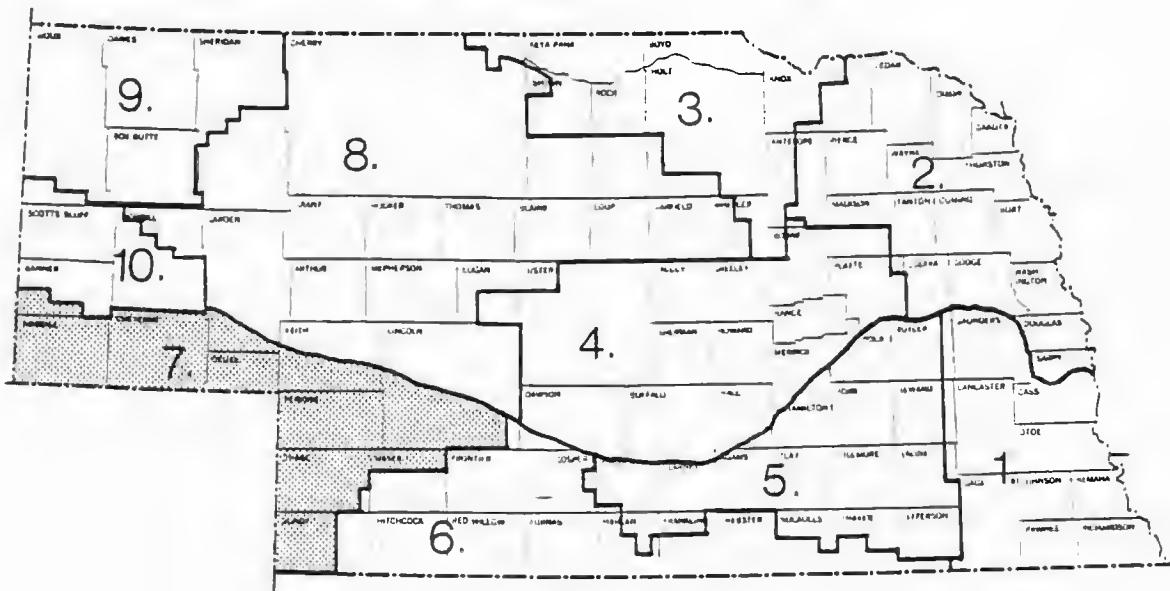


Fig. 1. Type-of-Farming and Geographic Regions for the state of Nebraska.

As evidenced by the Regions Map in Figure 1, the Garden County Historic Building Survey area contains two type-of-farming regions: High Plains Cash Grain, Livestock, and Potato Production and Sand Hills Range Livestock Production. Due to their influence on settlement and development of Garden County, a discussion of these types and associated historic buildings is presented on the following page.

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High Plains Cash Grain, Livestock, and Potato Production



The composition of the High Plains Cash Grain, Livestock and Potato Production region is somewhat reflective of the diverse nature of agriculture throughout the state of Nebraska. It is a region characterized by a combination of three agricultural enterprises: the cultivation of cash grain crops, the production of cattle, and commercial potato growing.

The High Plains Cash Grain, Livestock, and Potato Production region is located in the southwestern part of the state and is extremely irregular in form. It includes the southern portion of the panhandle and is bordered on the north by the North Platte River valley and stretches south in a range of 40 to 100 miles. The region encompasses Kimball, Cheyenne, Deuel and Perkins Counties and portions of Dundy, Chase, Lincoln, Hayes, Keith, and Garden Counties.

This region lies in the High Plains geographic zone of the state and is characterized by short grass prairie vegetation on flat-lying lands. It constitutes the major table land area of western Nebraska and is transected by Lodgepole Creek and the South Platte River. The western area of the region is comprised of shallow, sandy soils which are not well suited to cultivation. However, in other areas of this region, soil is a medium-textured clay loam or silt and is well adapted for the production of cash grain crops--particularly wheat (Garey, 1936, p. 28).

Despite the presence of multiple farming systems, this region is historically known for its wheat production (Hedges and Elliott, p. 27). Corn, barley and oats have also been grown in the region but wheat occupied dominant acreage during the period of historic importance (1900-1940). Suitability for wheat production in this region is attributable to lower amounts of rainfall, higher altitudes, and silt loam soils.

Development of winter wheat had a significant impact on the agricultural economy of the state. Dominance of wheat enterprise was first expressed in the early years of the twentieth-century (Olson, p. 251). Prior to this, wheat had found little favor among Nebraska farmers. Spring wheat was unsuitable for particular soils and climates within Nebraska and Turkey Red winter wheat was viewed with disfavor by the milling industry which found it difficult to process. However, development of new milling processes and declining livestock and corn prices of the mid-1890's rekindled interest in wheat production. In addition to this, introduction of the press drill enabled important pre-winter growth by planting seed deeper, and spurred the increase in winter wheat cultivation (Olson, p. 251). By 1901, Nebraska was exceeded only by Kansas in winter wheat production (Olson, p. 252). In 1899, spring wheat constituted 96.9% of total wheat acreage in Nebraska. However, by

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1909 winter wheat accounted for 91.3% of the total wheat acreage (Olson, p. 252). No other plant had changed the agricultural complexion of the state in such a short time.

The importance of Turkey Red winter wheat crop was particularly noteworthy in the High Plains Cash Grain, Livestock and Potato Production area. With the exception of a two-year decline between 1916 and 1918, wheat occupied a minimum of 75% of crop land from 1915 to 1934. In 1929, 60% of total farm income in the region was from the sale of wheat (Garey, p. 28, 1936). Emergence of wheat in the early twentieth-century generally came at the expense of oat and corn production. Corn enterprise remained second in importance for the eastern portion of the region with barley the second grain crop of choice in the western portion (Hedges and Elliott, p. 27).

Production of beef cattle and hogs served as a supplement to income generated by cash grain crops. In 1929, hog and cattle sales contributed a little over 30% of the total farm income (Garey, p. 28, 1936). Of this total, hogs contributed more than any other kind of livestock. However, production of livestock was generally of less importance than in any other type-of-farming region in the state (Hedges and Elliott, p. 27).

The third and final farming enterprise important to this region is the commercial potato industry. Production of potatoes is confined mainly to the irrigated northern portion of the region. This sub-region includes a portion of the North Platte River valley and is adjacent to root crop production area of Scotts Bluff and Morrill Counties.

Property Types of the High Plains Cash Grain, Livestock and Potato Production Region

The High Plains Cash Grain, Livestock and Potato Production farming requires a variety of buildings and skills necessary for successful management of cattle and production of crops. Farmsteads which have retained their pre-mechanization buildings had a variety of

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structures important to the reconnaissance survey. Buildings found on these farmsteads have been defined as component property types by the NESHPO and share broadly-defined physical characteristics with other farm buildings in the region.

Component property types of High Plains Cash Grain, Livestock and Potato Production fall into two general categories; commercial-related types and domestic types. Commercial related buildings are considered those structures which contribute to the commercial economy of farm enterprise. In contrast, domestic buildings are those structures related to non-income producing activities; existing primarily for the subsistence of human occupants.



Buildings associated with the High Plains Cash Grain, Livestock, and Potato Production area reflect the variable character of the region. Farmsteads of this region contained commercial and domestic building types necessary for crop cultivation and storage, cattle production, and human shelter. The primary commercial property types associated with this

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farming system were barns (horse, hay and cattle), granaries, corn cribs, combination crib-granaries, implement sheds, root crop cellars and windbreaks. Commercial property types of secondary importance included fencing systems, loafing sheds, pump houses, tool sheds, and stock tank systems. The major domestic property types associated with this context include; ranch or farm house, wash house, cellar, summer kitchen, smokehouse, outhouse, chicken house, brooder house, vegetable garden, garage, cob house, cistern, orchard, and miscellaneous sheds.

Farmsteads of the High Plains Cash Grain, Livestock and Potato Production region did not generally contain all of the domestic and commercial property types listed above. Instead, a significant number of these types were found in various combinations based on the particular emphasis of the respective farmstead. Among the possible combinations of property types evident in the region, the highest priority in terms of reconnaissance level documentation went to those properties exhibiting complete farmstead units. A complete farmstead unit was defined as a property comprised of a significant collection of both commercial and domestic component property types.

While the complete farmstead unit was considered the most significant resource associated with this context, a large number of other properties were surveyed. These other properties include farmsteads with only a portion of their commercial or domestic buildings extant or individually significant buildings on otherwise non-contributing properties. Examples which fall into this category include buildings which possess architectural distinction based on technical or artistic merits and those buildings with ethnic associations. In addition, individual buildings noteworthy for their regional association with the predominant system-of-farming were also considered significant.

Sand Hills Range Livestock Production

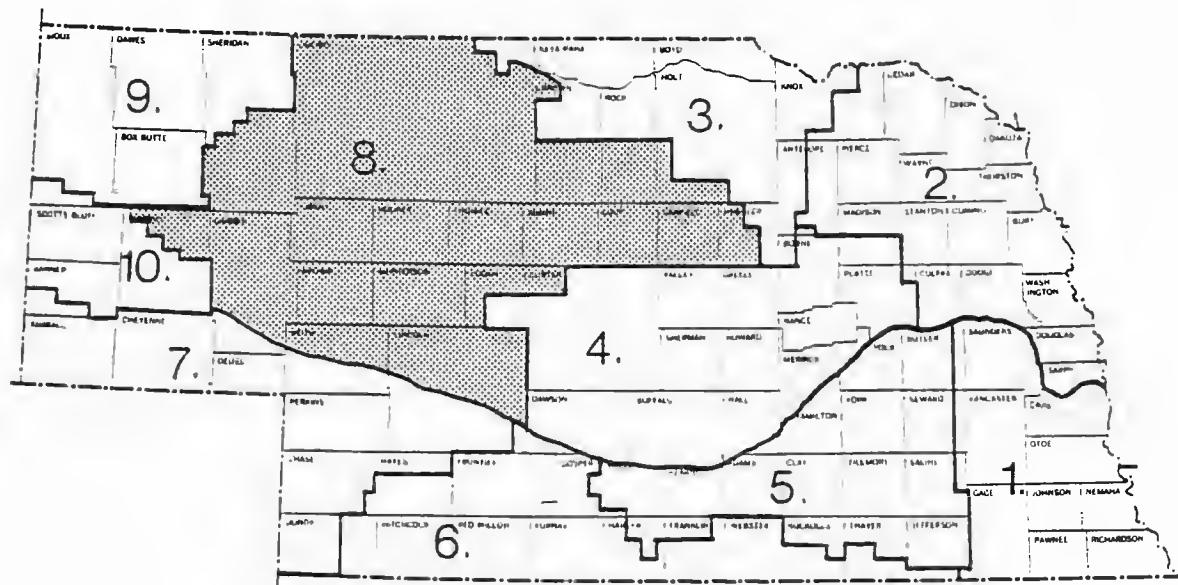


Fig. 2. The Sand Hills Range Livestock Production Area.

The Sand Hills Range Livestock Production region, in the north-central and northwest portions of the state, extends north from the Platte River Valley to the South Dakota border and varies in width from 100 to 200 miles. This region is the largest agricultural area identified by the NESHPO and includes Cherry, Grant, Hooker, Thomas, Loup, Blaine, Arthur, Garfield, and McPherson Counties. In addition, large portions of Brown, Rock, Holt, Keith, Wheeler, Morrill, Garden, Lincoln, Sheridan and Logan Counties also lie within the Sand Hills Range Livestock Production region.

One of the fundamental characteristics of this area is the extremely large proportion of land devoted to cattle grazing. True to its name, the area includes the Nebraska Sand Hills region, the largest soil and topographic region in the state (Garey 1936, p. 27).

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A distinctive geographic region, the Sand Hills cover approximately one-fourth of the state and comprise the most extensive dune formation in the western hemisphere (Madson 1978, p. 493). Characterized by low-lying sand dunes covered by native grasses, the Sand Hills are predominantly rangeland. There is little surface drainage due to the porous nature of the sandy soil, and beneath vast dunes of sandhills are large aquifers which can reach a depth of one-thousand feet. Between the hills are numerous basins which sometimes widen into larger valleys. In many of these valleys the high water table has risen above the surface of the land and formed marshes, ponds, and lakes. The effect of the high water table is most evident by the presence of 13,000 lakes scattered in the north and west regions of the Sand Hills (Madson 1978, p. 499).

Soils of the Sand Hills region are exceptionally fine in texture and are extremely susceptible to blowing. For this reason, it is the goal of cattle producers to maintain native grass covers to prevent "blow-outs" of dune tops and provide the necessary supplements for grazing. Due to the presence of the sandy soils, the Sand Hills Range Livestock Production area is not conducive to the production of cultivated crops. In 1936, only eight-percent of the area was deemed suitable for cultivation (Garey 1936, p. 49) Only four-percent of the entire region was classified as containing good soils and much of those areas were located along river and streambeds (Garey 1936, p. 49).

Given such environmental conditions it is easy to understand why this land is utilized principally for cattle grazing. With more than 75 percent of the land in pasture and the majority of the remaining lands utilized for hay production, the cattle enterprise is the logical choice as the farming type in this region (Hedges and Elliott, p. 27) Hay, in combination with limited amounts of grains provides the winter feed necessary for breeding herds. Since grasses of the Sand Hills are not primarily suitable for the production of

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grass-fat cattle, these herds are maintained and young cattle from the area are typically sent to the corn belt region prior to final shipment to market (Hedges and Elliott, p. 59).

The Sand Hills Range Livestock Production area, therefore, is essentially a cattle raising area. The economic base of this region, today and historically, is almost entirely from the sale of cattle with a small proportion coming from crop and dairy products (see Table 2).

Table 2: Utilization of Land in the Sand Hills Cattle Ranching Area, 1899-1928.

Land Utilization	1899	1909	1919	1924	1928
Cultivated Area	.5%	2.0%	3.9%	4.1%	4.2%
Wild Hay	3.9%	8.3%	10.5%	10.5%	11.0%
Pastures	11.3%	42.2%	63.2%	66.4%	80.3%
Land not in farms	84.3%	47.5%	22.4%	19.0%	4.5%

In reviewing this table, we see that the predominant trend among ranches in the Sand Hills was the increase of pasture land for the grazing of cattle. The only region to display a dominance in a singular agricultural type (in this case cattle) was the Sand Hills Range Livestock Production area. Therefore, comparatively speaking, no other single agricultural type is as important to its respective region as the cattle industry is to Sand Hills ranching area.

Property Types of the Sand Hills Range Livestock Production Area

In property type discussions previously generated for the NESHPO regarding ethnic-related contexts, buildings of discussion were organized according to the separation

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of Old World and New World traditions. Unfortunately, the study of buildings associated with Sand Hills ranching do not lend themselves to this conceptual separation. While it is acknowledged that the design and arrangement of farm buildings elsewhere in Nebraska may have been influenced considerably by cultural traditions, buildings of the Sand Hills Range Livestock Production area are generally without a significant ethnic influence. This is in part due to minimal influx of foreign-born immigrants as well as the overall lack of a population base capable of transferring ethnically-associated building characteristics. Even if the potential for variances in cultural design proved valid in the Sand Hills ranching area, the nature of cattle production required a basic group of animal and human-related structures which were built with scarce materials and not a source for ethnic expression. The following property type discussion then, will focus upon basic structures associated with Sand Hills Range Livestock Production.

The Sand Hills ranching system requires a variety of buildings and skills necessary for the successful management of significant numbers of cattle. Ranches which have retained their pre-mechanization buildings have a variety of structures important to the reconnaissance level survey. Buildings found on Sand Hills cattle ranches are similar in some respects to those found on Intensive Livestock Production farms of northeast Nebraska: cattle barns, cattle loafing sheds, implement sheds, cattle fencing systems, windmills, windbreaks and the occasional small-scale corn crib. In addition to these animal-related structures, domestic buildings included the ranch or farm house, wash houses, privies, cellars, milk houses, smoke houses, tool sheds, and chicken houses.

Another group of buildings however, were found to be exclusive to the Nebraska Sand Hills Range Livestock Production area. These buildings were constructed to either meet the needs of the cattle themselves or to shelter the activities of ranch hands employed in

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handling herds. Buildings associated with the labor force include bunkhouses, saddle sheds, cookhouses, and commissaries. Specific structures or objects created exclusively for the handling of cattle include dipping stations for the cleaning and health maintenance of cattle, vaccination/branding stanchions for immunization and identification of stock, breaking pens for implementation of working stock, sorting pens for management and separation of bulls, calves and heifers, holding corrals usually located in outlying pasture land, and loading chutes for eventual shipping of sale-bound cattle.



In addition to the fact that there exists a unique set of structures exclusive to Sand Hills cattle ranching, it is also important to note that the visual characteristics of a Sand Hills ranch are also unique in comparison with other type-of-farming areas in Nebraska. The overpowering presence of the Sand Hills landscape immediately imparts a mentality of no-nonsense survival tempered by intriguing beauty. A description of a Sand

Hills ranch is found in John Madson's trip to the Abbott Ranch in west-central Cherry County (National Geographic, Oct., 1978).

From the main highway the road back to the ranch is nine tough miles of ruts and sand traps. The farther you go, the more you wonder where you made the wrong turn. Suddenly, around the shoulder of a high ridge, there is ranch headquarters.

The main house, in a grove of cottonwoods and box elders, is 67 years old, high-ceilinged and spacious. Nearby stand the bunkhouse and cookhouse, and set into the side of the ridge is a combination butcher shop, creamery, and commissary that can feed the ranch crew for two months if blizzards close the road.

Across the ranch yard, a blacksmith forge and machine shop are equipped to serve either horse or tractor. Beyond the pens, corrals, loading chutes, and dipping tanks lies a broad, sheltered valley with herds of wintering cattle. There is a certain quality about a working ranch like this; it is a window into yesterday, with something unchanged since before the ranges were fenced.

And it is indeed true that the appearance of a Sand Hills ranch nestled among billowing hills imparts an ageless "old west" quality. A quality perhaps derived in part from its early beginnings as an outgrowth of the Texas cattle industry.

Agriculture Preliminary Inventory

NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-026 Rural
DATE: C.1890

COMMON NAME: Abandoned Farm w/Stone Buildings

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.07)

PROPERTY TYPE: Farm (0.81)
Stone Masonry (11.4 3:3)

DOE: Eligible

Homestead property consisting of six native stone buildings. Eligible to the National Register for associations with early Garden County settlement and as a ranching property high in historic integrity.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-031 **Rural**
DATE: C.1908
COMMON NAME: Abandoned Farm w/Stone House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.07)
 Stone Masonry (11.4.3:3)
PROPERTY TYPE: Farm (08.1)
DOE: Eligible
Rough-cut stone block house significant in the multiple property study of stone construction (11.4.3:3) in Nebraska.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-035 **Rural**
DATE: C.1905
COMMON NAME: Farm w/Stone House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.07)
PROPERTY TYPE: Farm (08.1)
 Stone Masonry (11.4.3:3)
DOE: Eligible
One-story house constructed of massive rough cut stone blocks. Important for the use of native building materials during the Kinkaid era.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-073 **Rural**
DATE: C.1912
COMMON NAME: Farm w/Sod House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.07)
PROPERTY TYPE: Farm (08.1)
 Sod Construction (11.4.3:1)
DOE: Eligible
Cement over sod house built during the early twentieth-century. Significant as a contributor to the multiple property study of sod houses despite the recent conversion into a garage.



Western Sandhills and High Plains Historic Buildings Survey

NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-074 **Rural**

DATE: C.1914

COMMON NAME: Farm w/Sod House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.07)

PROPERTY TYPE: Farm (08.1)
Sod Construction (11.4.3:1)

DOE: Eligible

Though sheathed in stucco, the thick walls and the low-to-the-ground massing of this ranch house identifies its construction as sod.

GD00-074 is a well-preserved example of this unique house type.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-082 **Rural**

DATE: C.1905

COMMON NAME: Farm w/Stone Houses

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.07)
Stone Masonry (11.4.3:3)

PROPERTY TYPE: Farm (08.1)

DOE: Eligible

Eligible to the National Register for the use of native stone in the main house and in the smaller homestead house behind. Large frame barn with gambrel roof and cupola contribute to the historic integrity.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-093 **Rural**

DATE: C.1931

COMMON NAME: Former Pumping Station

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.07)

PROPERTY TYPE: Pumping Facility (09.3.2.1)

DOE: Eligible

Important to the sub-context of Irrigation in the High Plains region and to the property type of water pumping facilities.



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NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-014 **Rural**
DATE: C.1915
COMMON NAME: Farm
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.07)
PROPERTY TYPE: Farm (08.1)
DOE: Eligible
 Eight contributing buildings including a stone house represent the practice of large-scale High Plains farming during the Development and Growth Period (See Topical Listing: NESHPO, 1990).



NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-067 **Rural**
DATE: C.1914
COMMON NAME: Ranch w/Sod House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.08)
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)
 Sod Construction (11.4.3:1)
DOE: Eligible
 Included in the Preliminary Inventory primarily for the well-maintained sod house. Contributes to the study of this house type in Garden County and Nebraska.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-070 **Rural**
DATE: C.1913
COMMON NAME: Ranch w/Sod House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.08)
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)
 Sod Construction (11.4.3:1)
DOE: Eligible
 Sod house with cement sheathing built during the early twentieth-century. Significant as a contributor to the multiple property study of sod houses despite the recent conversion into a garage.



Western Sandhills and High Plains Historic Buildings Survey

NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-015 **Rural**

DATE: C.1910

COMMON NAME: Abandoned Farm

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.07)

PROPERTY TYPE: Farm (08.1)

DOE: Potentially Eligible

Situated near Ash Hollow Creek in southeast Garden County, GD00-015 contributes to the study of early settlement in Garden County. Contains six contributing frame buildings.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-021 **Rural**

DATE: C.1912

COMMON NAME: Farm

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.07)

PROPERTY TYPE: Farm (08.1)

DOE: Potentially Eligible

Seven frame contributing buildings represent the context of High Plains Cash Grain, Livestock and Potato Production as defined by the NESHPO (Topical Listing: NESHPO, 1990).



NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-033 **Rural**

DATE: C.1908

COMMON NAME: Farm

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.07)

PROPERTY TYPE: Farm (08.1)
Stone Masonry (11.4.3:1)

DOE: Potentially Eligible

Significant for the stone barn and stone pump-house. GD00-033 contributes to the multiple property study of native stone construction in Nebraska.



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NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-037 **Rural**
DATE: C.1911
COMMON NAME: Farm w/Stone Buildings
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.07)
PROPERTY TYPE: Farm (08.1)
 Stone Masonry (11.4.3:3)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
Included primarily for the large native stone barn with gambrel roof. Contributes to the study of stone construction in Nebraska.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-040 **Rural**
DATE: C.1920
COMMON NAME: Abandoned Farm
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.07)
PROPERTY TYPE: Farm (08.1)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
Good example showing the early use of cement block in domestic architecture. Frame barn also contributes to the historic integrity of this property.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-099 **Rural**
DATE: C.1900
COMMON NAME: Rock & Grout House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.07)
PROPERTY TYPE: Farm (08.1)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
Despite deterioration, significant for the use of rock and grout construction in the house. Reflects early settlement and ranching in Garden County.



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NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-104 **Rural**
DATE: C.1913
COMMON NAME: Farm w/Stone Buildings
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.07)
PROPERTY TYPE: Farm (08.1)
 Stone Masonry (11.4.3:3)

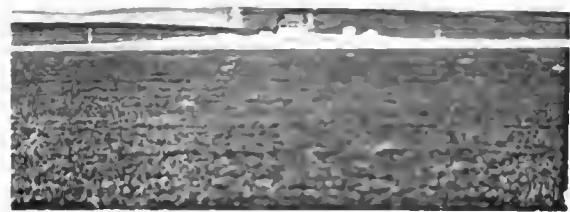
DOE: Potentially Eligible
 Deemed significant for the stone barn and for
 the rock and grout house which contribute to
 the study of native building traditions in
 Nebraska.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-108 **Rural**
DATE: C.1912
COMMON NAME: Farm
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.07)
PROPERTY TYPE: Farm (08.1)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
 Included as a representative ranch from the
 early twentieth-century. Eight contributing
 buildings testify to the prosperity enjoyed
 during the Development and Growth period in
 Garden County (1890-1920).



NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-117 **Rural**
DATE: C.1900
COMMON NAME: Abandoned Farm
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.07)
PROPERTY TYPE: Farm (08.1)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
 One-story frame house with mansard roof and cut
 out dormers deemed potentially eligible as an
 uncommon house type.





NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-045 Rural
DATE: C.1923
COMMON NAME: Peterson Ranch
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.08)
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
Included as a representative ranch from the 1920's. Seventeen contributing buildings reflect the prosperity enjoyed during spurious growth period of the 1920's as defined by the Historic Contexts In Nebraska: Topical Listing (NESHPO 1989).



NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-050 **Rural**
DATE: C.1912
COMMON NAME: Ranch Buildings
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.08)
PROPERTY TYPE: Outbuildings (10.7.2)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
Included in the Preliminary Inventory for the
use of stone construction in the livestock barn
and for the well-preserved cement and frame
barn.



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NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-062 **Rural**

DATE: C.1911

COMMON NAME: Ranch

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.08)

PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)

DOE: Potentially Eligible

Smooth-cut sandstone barn with gambrel roof deemed potentially eligible to the National Register as an example of native stone construction methods.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-064 **Rural**

DATE: C.1907

COMMON NAME: Ranch

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.08)

PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)

DOE: Potentially Eligible

Important example of an early ranching operation in Garden County. Contributes to the context of Sand Hills Range Livestock production.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-065 **Rural**

DATE: C.1912

COMMON NAME: Ranch

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.08)

PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)

DOE: Potentially Eligible

Significant exclusively for the wooden windmill with 12 foot fan made by the Eclipse Windmill Company, Beloit Wisconsin. Ranch contains 6 contributing and 7 non-contributing buildings



NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-107 **Rural**
DATE: C.1900
COMMON NAME: Abandoned Ranch
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.08)
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
Large-scale ranch significant for its nine contributing buildings including a stone outbuilding.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-012 **Rural**
DATE: C.1906
COMMON NAME: Ranch
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.08)
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
This property contains the relocated Oshkosh Union Pacific Depot and was previously surveyed as part of a Depot survey project. Found to contain additional significance through the presence of a native stone house.



Historic Context: Commerce

The context of Commerce is defined as the buying and selling of commodities, involving transportation from place to place. Considerations include wholesaling and retailing; gift exchange; trade and barter; monetary economy including finance, business organization, and mercantile business. Commerce encompasses a diverse range of businesses including general stores, hotels, speciality stores and department stores.

The Historic Buildings Survey of Garden County found twelve (12) Commerce properties which met the criteria for reconnaissance level survey. Among the twelve properties, one

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was judged eligible and five potentially eligible for National Register of Historic Places listing. The twelve properties surveyed relate to the sub contexts of Grain Handling and Storage (H.C.: 12.05.01) and Retail Commerce in the High Plains Region (H.C.: 12.02.07). Pertinent information regarding the twelve surveyed properties linked to Commerce in Garden County is outlined in the following table.

NEHBS NUMBER	DATE	RESOURCE/COMMON NAME	HISTORIC CONTEXT	CONTRIBUTING			PROPERTY TYPE	DOE
				BLDG	SITE	STRU. OBJ.		
GD02-001	C1916	FORMER STERLING LUMBER CO.	12.02.07	1	0	0	11.4.2	P
GD02-014	C1910	COMMERCIAL BUILDING	12.02.07	1	0	0	12.1	C
GD03-059	1927	A.F. & A.M./ COMMERCIAL BLDG.	12.02.07	1	0	0	12.1.1, 05.1.1	E
GD03-060	1929	G.H. MORRIS HOTEL	12.02.07	1	0	0	12.3.1	P
GD03-062	C1910	COMMERCIAL BUILDING	12.02.07	1	0	0	12.1.1	C
GD03-069	C1922	COMMERCIAL BUILDING	12.02.07	1	0	0	12.1	P
GD01-018	C1919	ABAN. COMMERCIAL BUILDING	12.02.07	1	0	0	12.1	P
GD01-020	C1911	COMMERCIAL BUILDING	12.02.07	1	0	0	12.1.1	C
GD01-022	C1918	FORMER EGGER HOTEL	12.02.07	1	0	0	12.3.1	C
GD01-033	C1910	COMMERCIAL BUILDING	12.02.07	1	0	0	12.1	C
GD02-006	C1919	ELEVATOR	12.05	1	0	0	12.2.3	P
GD03-022	C1900	BEARD GRAIN COMPANY	12.05	2	0	1	12.2.4	P

Main street commercial buildings accounted for nine (9) of the twelve properties surveyed. These main street buildings can be categorized into two predominant types: the frame false-front and the masonry commercial building or block. False-front types were generally found in smaller communities and consisted of one-story, rectangular-shaped structures with gable roofs hidden behind an exaggerated facade. The false front helped to disguise the relatively low scale of the building by hiding the true size of the structure and thus conveying a greater sense of prominence. The primary era of construction in Garden County for this type was from 1900 to 1915. Buildings of the false-front type in Garden County are: GD01-033, GD01-020, and GD02-014. The second type documented by the survey, the masonry commercial building or block, were generally found in the larger

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communities of the survey area. These buildings were typically constructed between 1915 and 1930, and consist of one and two-story masonry structures with one or two-part compositional facades. These buildings were often built on single twenty-five foot commercial lots or in double to triple wide commercial lots of fifty to seventy-five foot widths. Garden County buildings of the masonry commercial building type are: GD01-022, GD01-018, GD03-059, GD03-060, GD03-069, GD02-001, and GD03-022.

NEHBS NUMBER: GD03-059 Oshkosh

DATE: 1927

COMMON NAME: A.F. & A.M./Commercial Building

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Commerce (12.02.07)
Association (05.02)

PROPERTY TYPE: Mixed Use (12.1.3)

DOE: Eligible

Considered potentially eligible for National Register listing based on its role in the development of retail commerce and fraternal organizations during the Spurious Economic Growth (See Topical Listing: NESHPO, 1990).



NEHBS NUMBER: GD02-001 Lisco

DATE: C.1916

RESOURCE NAME: Former Foster Lumber Company

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Commerce (12.02.07)

PROPERTY TYPE: Construction Supply (11.4.2)

DOE: Potentially Eligible

Despite abandonment, GD02-001 remains an important architectural resource to the historic character of Lisco's main street.



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NEHBS NUMBER: GD03-060 Oshkosh

DATE: 1929

RESOURCE NAME: G. H. Morris Hotel

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Commerce (12.02.07)

PROPERTY TYPE: Hotel (12.3.1)

DOE: Potentially Eligible

Significant contributor to the central business district of Oshkosh during the Spurious Economic Growth and Post-War periods in Nebraska. Also contributes to the multiple property study of hotels in Nebraska.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD03-069 Oshkosh

DATE: C.1922

COMMON NAME: Commercial Building

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Commerce (12.02.07)

PROPERTY TYPE: Store (12.1.1)

DOE: Potentially Eligible

Small one-story commercial building with two shops important to the historic character of Oshkosh's business district.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD01-018 Lewellen

DATE: C.1919

COMMON NAME: Abandoned Commercial Building

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Commerce (12.02.07)

PROPERTY TYPE: Store (12.1.1)

DOE: Potentially Eligible

Well-preserved one-story brick commercial building. Considered significant as an example of a small scale commercial building in Garden County.



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NEHBS NUMBER: GD02-006 Lisco
DATE: C.1919
COMMON NAME: Elevator
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Commerce (12.02.07)
PROPERTY TYPE: Grain Elevator (12.2.3)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
 Despite alterations, this Lisco grain elevator adds to the historic character of the built environment and contributes to property type development.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD03-022 Oshkosh
DATE: C.1900
RESOURCE NAME: Beard Grain Company
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Commerce (12.05)
PROPERTY TYPE: Scale House (12.2.4)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
 One-story brick Grain Office/Scalehouse included in the Preliminary Inventory for its association with High Plains farming in southern Garden County.



Historic Context: Transportation

The context of Transportation involves the carrying, moving or conveying of material and people from one place to another. Considerations include transportation by land, water, and air; trails, roads, highways, interstates, railway; and related service accommodations such as railroad stations and depots, motels, gas stations, and airplane terminals.

The Historic Buildings Survey of Garden County found seven (7) properties relating to the context of Transportation which met the criteria for reconnaissance level survey. In

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addition to these seven properties, the context of Transportation in Garden County also includes eight (8) sites previously surveyed by the NESHPO: Ash Hollow Historic District-NRHP (GD00-001 through GD00-006), former Lewellen Union Pacific depot (GD00-009), and former Oshkosh Union Pacific Depot (GD00-012). Among the fifteen (15) transportation related properties in the Garden County database, one has been judged eligible, and three potentially eligible for listing to the National Register of Historic Places. Pertinent information regarding the surveyed properties is outlined in the following table.

NEHBS NUMBER	DATE	RESOURCE/COMMON NAME	HISTORIC CONTEXT	CONTRIBUTING			PROPERTY TYPE	DOE
				BLDG	SITE	STRU. OBJ.		
GD02-002	C1909	FORMER LIVERY/SERVICE GARAGE	13.02	1	0	0	12.3.3	C
GD02-003	C1919	FORMER MITCHELL GARAGE	13.02	1	0	0	13.3.3.4	P
GD03-006	C1920	ABAN. FILLING STATION/GARAGE	13.02	1	0	0	13.3.3.3, 13.3.3	P
GD03-065	C1950	FORMER MOTEL	13.02	3	0	0	12.3.2	E
GD03-070	C1929	GAS STATION W/GARAGE	13.02	2	0	0	13.3.3.3	C
GD01-017	C1930	ROBERTSON'S GARAGE	13.02	1	0	0	13.3.3.4	C
GD01-025	C1917	COMMERCIAL GARAGE	13.02	1	0	0	13.3.3.4	P
GD00-001-6		ASH HOLLOW HISTORIC DISTRICT	13.02.01.	3	5	0	3	NRHP
GD00-009	C1890	LEWELLEN U.P. DEPOT	13.03.01	1	0	0	13.5.2	C
GD00-012	C1906	OSHKOSH U.P. DEPOT	13.03.01	1	0	0	13.5.2	C

The majority of the fifteen surveyed properties consist of related support service facilities for either Road Transportation (H.C.: 13.02) or Rail Transportation (H.C.:13.03). Because the primary emphasis of support service facilities is the generation of income, these properties can be cross-referenced to the context of commerce. A photographic inventory of the four Transportation properties judged eligible for National Register consideration begins on the following page.

Western Sandhills and High Plains Historic Buildings Survey

NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-001 - GD00-006 **Rural**

DATE: C.1840-1860

RESOURCE NAME: Ash Hollow Historic District

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Transportation (13.02.01.05)

PROPERTY TYPE: See Nomination

DOE: National Register, 1975

The Ash Hollow Historic District includes significant examples of prehistoric Native American occupation, and Oregon-California Trail migration (See Historic Places, NEBRASKAland, 1989).



NEHBS NUMBER: GD03-065 **Oshkosh**

DATE: C.1950

COMMON NAME: Former Motel

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Transportation (13.02)

PROPERTY TYPE: Motel (12.3.2)

DOE: Eligible

Important for associations with Streamline Moderne architecture. Significant contributor in the study of automobile related properties in Garden County.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD02-003 **Lisco**

DATE: C.1919

RESOURCE NAME: Former Mitchell Garage

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Transportation (13.02)

PROPERTY TYPE: Service Garage (13.3.3.4)

DOE: Potentially Eligible

Included in the preliminary inventory as a locally significant property type. Converted in 1946 into the Lisco American Legion Hall.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD03-006 Oshkosh
DATE: C.1920
COMMON NAME: Abandoned Filling Station/Garage
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Transportation (13.02)
PROPERTY TYPE: Filling Station (13.3.3.3)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
Chosen to the inventory as an example of the gas station property type under the context of Transportation. Consists of a stucco building with garage and two pumps.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD01-025 Lewellen
DATE: C.1917
COMMON NAME: Commercial Garage
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Transportation (13.02)
PROPERTY TYPE: Service Garage (13.3.3.4)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
Included in the Preliminary Inventory as a locally unique contributor to the historic context of Transportation in Garden County.



Historic Context: Services

The historic context of Services refers to the community support services provided or controlled by government and commonly viewed as necessities. This includes public services such as supply of gas, electricity, and water; the disposal of waste; and the protective services of fire fighting and disaster relief. Private professional services are also considered under this context and include architecture, banking, medical and insurance industries.

The survey of Garden County found three (3) properties worthy of recordation based on reconnaissance survey criteria. Among the three properties, two (2) have been judged

Western Sandhills and High Plains Historic Buildings Survey

eligible for National Register listing: Oshkosh State Bank (GD03-061) and Bank of Lewellen (GD01-019). Both are two-story brick buildings utilizing Classical Revival design elements. A high degree of historic integrity remains in each. The three properties recorded represent two primary sub-contexts within the Services topic: Public Utilities (H.C.: 15.01.), and The Age of Main Street Banking: The Dual System in Nebraska (1890-1920), (H.C.: 15.05.03.). Pertinent information regarding the surveyed properties is outlined in the following table.

NEHBS NUMBER	DATE	RESOURCE/COMMON NAME	HISTORIC CONTEXT	CONTRIBUTING BLDG	PROPERTY SITE	OBJ.	TYPE	DOE
GD03-036	C1930	WATER TOWER	15.01	0	0	1	0	15.5.2
GD03-061	1917	OSHKOSH STATE BANK	15.05.03	1	0	0	0	15.1.1
GD01-019	C1917	BANK OF LEWELLEN	15.05.03	1	0	0	0	15.1.1

NEHBS NUMBER: GD03-061 Oshkosh

DATE: 1917

RESOURCE NAME: Oshkosh State Bank

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Service (15.05.03)

PROPERTY TYPE: Bank (15.1.1)

DOE: Eligible

Two-story brick and stone bank eligible to the National Register based on its role in the establishment of financial services during early twentieth-century settlement in Oshkosh.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD01-019 Lewellen

DATE: C.1917

RESOURCE NAME: Bank of Lewellen

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Service (15.05.03)

PROPERTY TYPE: Bank (15.1.1)

DOE: Eligible

Two-story brick bank significant to the early development of banking in Lewellen and to the "Age of Main Street Banking" sub-context (See Topical Listing: NESHPO, 1990).



Historic Context: Settlement

Settlement is the broad contextual title encompassing the division, acquisition, occupation, and ownership of land. This context contains settlement patterns generated through political, religious or commercial activities to facilitate the establishment of cultural systems. Specific considerations include acquisition methods and use patterns of land as well as the spatial delineation and organization of land including hamlets, cities, villages, towns, and the furthest delineation--the individual dwelling.

This contextual topic contained the greatest number of documented historic properties within Garden County. Of the 249 total properties documented in Garden County, 119 or 48% fall within the context of Settlement which met the criteria for reconnaissance level documentation. The majority of these properties were recognized simply as contributors to the historic built environment of Garden County. However, twelve (12) properties were judged eligible and sixteen (16) potentially eligible for National Register listing based on their respective significant qualities.

The retention of historic integrity that these 119 properties displayed was quite varied. In some instances, the integrity had been severely compromised through later

additions or alterations, while in other cases buildings were recorded which were extremely similar to their original condition.

The individual house-whether in an urban or a rural setting-is the most common feature of the built environment; it fulfills the basic human need for shelter. Houses represent the largest proportion of all buildings documented during reconnaissance level surveys. The Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey (NEHBS) for Garden County was no exception: 177 houses were documented, or 29.7 percent of all the county's contributing buildings. Although houses are such a common part of our surroundings, describing them can be complex; variations result from style, age, building material, and even the ethnic heritage of owners or builders.

Architectural histories and guide books often provide descriptions of houses during various periods of popularity in terms of style such as Italianate, Queen Anne, or Romanesque. Good examples of these houses are usually referred to as "high style". Houses that cannot be identified as a particular style and that are built from local materials such as log, stone, and sod are generally referred to as "folk" houses. Usually dating from the settlement era of a particular locality, folk houses were often built by immigrants who patterned them after buildings in their homeland. Age, distinctive building material, or unusual form makes these houses easy to identify during building surveys. Further research and comparison however, is necessary to determine how they might reflect "old world" buildings adapted to the Nebraska landscape.

During county-wide historic buildings surveys it becomes apparent that most houses are not associated with a specific architectural style, and that in many places, few survive from the settlement period. The goal of the Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey, however,

is to document all types of houses--from large Queen Annes with corner towers and stained glass windows, to small two room, frame houses with simple porches.

The remaining houses that are not high style or folk, are generally referred to as "vernacular" or common. All houses, whether they are high style, folk, or vernacular, can be studied for their form, floor plans, and distribution. In the case of folk and vernacular, documenting the form becomes especially important since there may not be other ways to describe these houses. Information about the basic form and features such as roof shape, and number of stories can reveal patterns or house types within a region, the work of a local builder or an ethnic group.

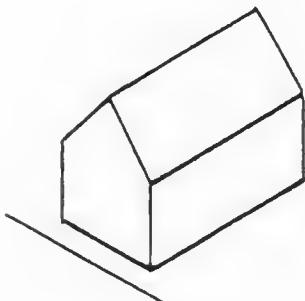
To document all houses, the Nebraska Historic Preservation Office uses a system derived in part from several vernacular house studies that was further developed for use during historic buildings surveys. Under this method, house types are categorized as "supratypes" to eliminate subjective descriptions based on "style." Instead, descriptions are based on the external mass of the house. The components of this method are defined as the following: Supratypes are categorizations based on the external massing of house, similar to that first developed by Kniffen (1936) under the rubric of "type." The term "suprtype" is used to distinguish it from other methods of type analysis which are based on external form and internal space, such as that developed by Glassie (1975).

Supratypes are defined by combinations of five massing elements derived from the core structure of the house--the predominant mass which cannot be further subdivided--exclusive of wings and porches. The five mass elements are shape, relative size, height, roof type, and orientation on the site (D. Murphy, 1989).

Garden County House Type Summary

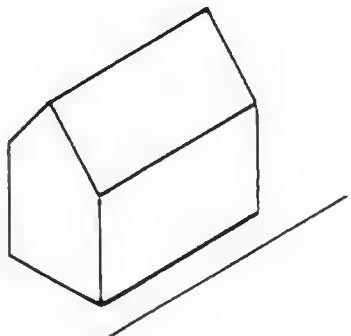
The use of the Core Suprtype analysis in the reconnaissance-level survey proved beneficial in that it created an objective process of interpretation for the recording of historic residences. Once houses are documented, the information is then analyzed to determine the number of each different type. There are usually many different types, due to variations in width, height, and roof configurations. Most houses however, can be categorized into a "family" of similar house forms. "Families" consist of house groupings based on core, roof shape, and orientation to the site.

Residential properties documented in the Garden County survey are represented by 46 different types in 177 houses. Numerical designation has been assigned to each of these 46 types (e.g., S.1, S.2, S.3, etc.). A master list of the 46 individual types is found in the NESHPO Survey Report file. While 46 types may seem like a tremendous variation for 177 total resources, a smaller group actually represents the majority of documented houses. In fact, four types (S.18, S.9, S.22, S.17) account for 40.1 percent of all recorded houses. Furthermore, 79.7 percent of all Garden County houses fit into one of only four dominant families. The following pages illustrate some of the numerically significant house types documented in Garden County.



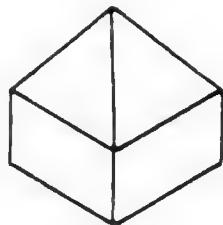
Family #1

This family, composed of seven various types, represents 28.52% of all Garden County house types. The common characteristics displayed by this group are a rectangular-shaped core covered by a gable roof with the narrow dimension of the core facing the street. Of the seven combinations comprising this family, two distinct types are numerically significant: S.18 (13.6%), and S.9 (9.6%).



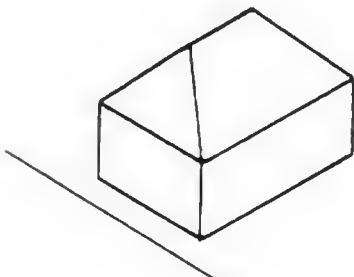
Family #2

This family, composed of seven various types, represents 22.60% of all Garden County house types. Identical to the form of Family #1, the distinguishing difference is in the latitudinal orientation (verses the longitudinal orientation of the former family). Of the seven different combinations comprising this family, two distinct types are numerically significant: S.17 (7.4%), and S.8 (5.1%).



Family #3

This family, composed of seven various types, represents 15.8% of all Garden County house types. The common characteristics displayed by this group are a square-shaped core covered by a hip roof with a non-applicable orientation. Of the seven combinations comprising this family, two types appeared most frequently: S.40 (6.2%) and S.39 (4.0%).



Family #4

This family, composed of only three various types, represents 12.4% of all Garden County house types. The common characteristics displayed by this group are a rectangular-shaped core covered by a hip roof with the narrow dimension of the core facing the street (longitudinal). Of the three combinations comprising this family, S.22 appears most frequently (9.6%).

Western Sandhills and High Plains Historic Buildings Survey

Settlement Preliminary Inventory

NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-023 **Rural**
DATE: C.1900
COMMON NAME: Abandoned House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)
PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
 Stone Masonry (11.4.3:1)

DOE: Eligible
 Deemed eligible to the National Register for associations with early settlement and the use of native stone in the construction of the one-story square house.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-042 **Rural**
DATE: C.1904
COMMON NAME: Stone House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)
PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
 Stone Masonry (11.4.3:3)

DOE: Eligible
 One-story stone house important for possible associations with Kinkaid era settlement.
 Contributes to the multiple property study of stone masonry construction in Western Nebraska.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-051 **Rural**
DATE: C.1905
COMMON NAME: Ranch House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)
PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
DOE: Eligible
 Deemed eligible to the National Register for the use of native stone and for associations with Kinkaid era settlement.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-054 **Rural**
DATE: C.1904
COMMON NAME: Abandoned Ranch w/Stone House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)
PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
 Stone Masonry (11.4.3:3)
DOE: Eligible
 Despite deterioration, GD00-054 is an excellent example of the use of stone masonry construction during the Development and Growth period in Garden County.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-072 **Rural**
DATE: C.1911
COMMON NAME: Abandoned Sod House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)
PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
 Sod Construction (11.4.3:1)
DOE: Eligible
 Kinkaid-era sod house eligible to the National Register for contributions made to the context of Settlement and more specifically sod house construction.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-115 **Rural**
DATE: C.1890
COMMON NAME: Stone House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)
PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
 Stone Masonry (11.4.3:3)
DOE: Eligible
 Stone house which has retained its historic integrity for a century; deemed significant as a representative Settlement property from the homesteading period.



Western Sandhills and High Plains Historic Buildings Survey

NEHBS NUMBER: GD03-021 Oshkosh

DATE: C.1907

COMMON NAME: House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)

DOE: Eligible

Well-preserved frame house from the Development and Growth Temporal Period (Topical Listing: NESHPO, 1990). Possible associations with person of local significance.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD03-029 Oshkosh

DATE: C.1912

COMMON NAME: Sod House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
Sod Construction (11.4.3:1)

DOE: Eligible

Hidden by lap siding, the low massing and thick walls suggest sod construction. GD03-029 retains a high degree of historic integrity and is a major contributor to the multiple property study of sod construction in Nebraska.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD03-038 Oshkosh

DATE: C.1907

COMMON NAME: House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)

DOE: Eligible

Well-preserved example of a one-story brick house from the Development and Growth period in Oshkosh. Important to the evolution of single family dwellings in Oshkosh.



Western Sandhills and High Plains Historic Buildings Survey

NEHBS NUMBER: GD03-039 Oshkosh

DATE: C.1907

COMMON NAME: House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)

DOE: Eligible

Similar to GD03-038, GD03-039 is also a good example of settlement in Oshkosh and is an important contributor to property type development.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD03-049 Oshkosh

DATE: C.1909

COMMON NAME: House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)

DOE: Eligible

One-story concrete block house significant as a well-preserved house and for the early use of alternative building materials in house construction.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-030 Rural

DATE: C.1905

COMMON NAME: Abandoned House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05, 08.07)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)

DOE: Eligible

Native stone house with wood shingle roof.

Represents significant building practice

employed in Garden County during the settlement period.



Western Sandhills and High Plains Historic Buildings Survey

NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-055 **Rural**
DATE: C.1910
COMMON NAME: Abandoned Ranch w/Stone House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)
 Stone Masonry (11.4.3:3)

DOE: Potentially Eligible
 Visually obscured by trees, this abandoned ranch with stone house is important to the multiple property study of stone masonry in Garden County.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-056 **Rural**
DATE: C.1916
COMMON NAME: Abandoned Ranch w/Stone House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)
PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
 Stone Masonry (11.4.3:3)

DOE: Potentially Eligible
 Crude one-story stone house with cement sheathing important to the history of indigenous buildings in Nebraska.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-058 **Rural**
DATE: C.1910
COMMON NAME: Abandoned Ranch
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)
PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
 Rock and grout barn and house with cement sheathing judged potentially eligible to the National Register for the use of native building materials and possible associations with Kinkaid Act settlement.





NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-088 **Rural**
DATE: C1909
COMMON NAME: Ranch
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
Significant as an early twentieth-century house type built of cement block. Despite the removal of the east front porch, GD00-088 still retains a high degree of historic integrity.



Western Sandhills and High Plains Historic Buildings Survey

NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-105 **Rural**
DATE: C.1906
COMMON NAME: Abandoned Ranch
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)
PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
 Kinkaid-era frame house with rock and grout wing eligible to the National Register for contributions made to the context of Settlement in Garden County.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD00-109 **Rural**
DATE: C.1909
COMMON NAME: Abandoned House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)
PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
 One-story abandoned cement block house important to the history of alternative building materials in house construction.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD02-012 **Lisco**
DATE: C.1916
COMMON NAME: House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)
PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
 Small frame house significant as an example of the shotgun house type characterized by the very narrow facade and an emphasis on the longitudinal orientation.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD03-020 Oshkosh

DATE: C.1910

COMMON NAME: Duplex

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)

PROPERTY TYPE: Duplex (16.5.3)

DOE: Potentially Eligible

Locally unique frame duplex from the Development and Growth Temporal Period (1890-1910) as defined by the NESHPO (Topical Listing: NESHPO, 1990).



NEHBS NUMBER: GD03-044 Oshkosh

DATE: C.1927

COMMON NAME: House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)

DOE: Potentially Eligible

Built during the Spurious Growth period of the 1920's (See Topical Listing: NESHPO 1989).

Representative of the bungalowoid house type popular during the latter half of the decade.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD03-045 Oshkosh

DATE: C.1927

COMMON NAME: House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)

DOE: Potentially Eligible

A well-preserved example of the bungalowoid house type popular during the late 1920's. Influence of the Craftsman Style can be seen through the use of brackets, shed dormer, and broad eaves.



Western Sandhills and High Plains Historic Buildings Survey

NEHBS NUMBER: GD03-051 Oshkosh

DATE: C.1910

COMMON NAME: House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)

DOE: Potentially Eligible

Well-preserved example of early twentieth-century domestic architecture in Garden County. Contributes to the context of early settlement in Oshkosh.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD03-058 Oshkosh

DATE: C.1930

COMMON NAME: Apartment Building

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)

DOE: Potentially Eligible

This one-story stucco apartment building is a good example of a multiple dwelling unit built during the end of the Spurious Economic Growth period (1920-1929) in Nebraska.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD03-063 Oshkosh

DATE: C.1911

COMMON NAME: House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)

DOE: Potentially Eligible

Small stucco house with steep-pitch gable roof, possibly associated with an ethnic immigrant culture. Important contributor to context and property type development in Garden County.



NEHBS NUMBER: GD01-014 Lewellen

DATE: C.1912

COMMON NAME: House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)

DOE: Potentially Eligible

Well-preserved concrete block house with wood shingle roof important to the historical settlement of Lewellen.



Important Themes of the Settlement Historic Context

A post-survey evaluation of the settlement properties recorded by the Garden County survey has identified certain resource groups which may be of potential interest to the NESHPO. The historic context of Settlement contains two multiple property topics worthy of further discussion: Native Material Buildings of the Western Sandhills and High Plains region and the Impact of the Homestead and Kinkaid Acts in the Western Sandhills and High Plains Region. A summary of these topics is presented in the following separate discussions. For examples of the properties associated with these topics, please refer to the Settlement Inventory found on pages 74 through 83 and the Agriculture Inventory on pages 48 through 57.

Native Material Buildings of the Western Sandhills and High Plains Study Region

Fig. 5: Sod house in rural Garden County (GD00-073).

The fundamental parameter of the Western Sandhills and High Plains Historic Buildings Survey was the recordation of buildings, structures, sites, and objects fifty years old or older which retained their historic integrity. By doing this, the NESHPO generates data regarding historic resources which is used to identify, evaluate, and register properties to the National Register of Historic Places. Based on its reconnaissance nature, the properties recorded by the survey display various levels of significance. While the majority of the buildings recorded met the integrity criteria required for reconnaissance survey, they generally did not carry a substantial amount of historic significance. However, in contrast to this were those buildings which not only retained historic integrity, but possess qualities which enhance their significance as historic material resources.

One such group of resources found during the Western Sandhills and High Plains survey that exhibit a greater level of significance are those buildings constructed from native materials during the periods of Settlement and Expansion (1867-1890), and Development and Growth (1890-1920). The most significant types of native material buildings among those found in Garden County which date to these periods were those constructed of either sod or baled straw. Separate discussions of these two construction methods is included in the following summaries.

Sod Construction in the Western Sandhills and High Plains

Fifty properties with sod buildings were recorded during the survey of Morrill, Garden, Keith, Perkins, Arthur, McPherson and Logan Counties. These counties represent seven of the eight county Western Sandhills and High Plains survey project. The majority of these fifty properties were located in Morrill County (28), with seven found in Garden County, six in McPherson County, four in Logan County, three in Perkins County and one in each Arthur and Keith Counties (see Sod House Inventory, p. 89). In addition to the importance of their structural systems, these buildings were also considered significant for their potential association with Homestead or Kinkaid Act settlement.

The sod houses recorded in the region consist of massive sod "brick" walls measuring up to twenty-four inches in thickness. There were two kinds of ground within the region suitable for use. The short alkali grass sod was most suitable but was only found in lower levels. Black root sod was also sufficient and was found in greater abundance in the higher elevations. Bunch grass sod was not suitable for construction due to the lack of a strong root system.



Fig. 6: Loading sod for building a sod house near the Dismal River in Thomas County.
(Photo: Nebraska State Historical Society).

The sod used for the houses was cut with a sod plow which would flip over one strip of sod approximately eighteen to twenty-four inches wide. These strips were then cut to desired length and stacked in alternating fashion with the grass-side down. The sod "bricks" had to be of similar thickness to keep the walls plumb. The walls were carefully laid to accommodate openings and were trimmed with a sharp spade for smoothness.

In addition to finding adequate sources of sod, settlers were also challenged by the creation of a quality plaster. The most effective method employed in the region involved locating a low swampy spot and digging two to three feet down to obtain a sticky bluish-colored gumbo. This was then mixed with water and sand to make a serviceable plaster. The walls of the sod houses were generally covered on the exterior with the gumbo-based plaster. However, examples of sod houses with no evidence of exterior plaster were also recorded.

The sod houses found in the region have a distinctly low and bulky appearance and are often identifiable by their lack of plumb walls and corners. The exterior wall height of the soddies was considerably shorter than that of frame structures and little, if any,



Fig: 7: Sod house in rural Garden County (GD00-072).

fenestration was included in the north walls of the buildings. The house typically contained rectangular two-room plans with a narrow side dimension of thirty feet or less. However, in some cases, a large one-story square-shaped plan in a basic four-square configuration was also recorded. The general era of construction for the Homestead-Kinkaid era sod houses ranged from approximately 1890 to as late as 1916. However, exceptions to this are found in the sub-group of houses built as novelties or as a result of Depression-era poverty.

The physical condition of the sod houses recorded by the survey was quite varied. In some instances, the only physical remains of a dwelling are sod wall ruins while in others, the sod structures are well maintained.



Fig. 8: Sod wall ruins and well-preserved sod structure, Garden County.
(L: GD00-071, R: GD00-070).

Based on their importance as significant material resources within the Western Sandhills and High Plains region, the fifty sod houses recorded by the survey are recommended for multiple property nomination to the National Register, (see p. 101). An inventory of the properties containing sod houses, as recorded by the survey, is included on the following page.

Sod House Inventory for the Western Sandhills and High Plains Historic Buildings Survey

MORRILL COUNTY

M000-018 c.1940 Sod house
 M000-024 c.1885 Withers sod house
 M000-028 c.1895 Loomis sod house
 M000-031 c.1900 Sod house
 M000-035 c.1910 Potential sod house
 M000-038 c.1885 Sod house
 M000-056 c.1910 Sod house
 M000-064 c.1908 Sod house
 M000-065 1912 Carl Nichols sod house
 M000-068 c.1910 Sod house
 M000-069 c.1905 Sod house
 M000-073 c.1910 Sod house
 M000-084 c.1912 Sod house
 M000-085 c.1908 Sod house
 M000-094 c.1908 Sod house
 M000-095 c.1903 Sod house
 M000-099 c.1905 Sod house
 M000-102 c.1888 Sod house
 M000-105 c.1913 Sod house
 M000-118 c.1900 Sod house ruins
 M000-119 c.1888 Two sod dugouts
 M000-134 1905 Sod house
 M000-140 c.1908 Sod house
 M000-143 c.1910 Greenwood Ranch sod house
 M000-148 c.1905 Sod house
 M000-165 c.1911 Sod house
 M003-001 c.1914 Sod house
 M003-054 c.1910 Sod house

PERKINS COUNTY

PR00-053 c.1910 Altered sod house
 PR00-065 c.1905 Sod house ruins
 PR00-073 c.1905 Sod house

KEITH COUNTY

KH00-065 c.1911 Sod house

LOGAN COUNTY

L000-005 c.1900 Ranch w/Sod House
 L000-010 c.1912 Altered Sod House
 L000-012 c.1905 Ranch w/Sod House
 L000-019 c.1913 Sod House on N.C. Ranch

McPHERSON COUNTY

MP00-004 c.1907 Aban. Sod House
 MP00-009 c.1912 Cumpston Sod House
 MP00-013 c.1905 Sod House on Non-Contributing Ranch
 MP00-015 1910 Trumbull Homestead w/Sod House
 MP00-026 c.1910 Melvin Ranch w/Sod House
 MP03-005 c.1907 John Seeley Sod House

ARTHUR COUNTY

AT00-004 c.1910 Ranch w/Sod House

GARDEN COUNTY

GD00-067 c.1914 Ranch w/Sod House
 GD00-070 c.1913 Ranch w/Sod House
 GD00-071 c.1910 Sod House Ruins
 GD00-072 c.1911 Aban. Sod House
 GD00-073 c.1912 Ranch w/Sod House
 GD00-074 c.1914 Ranch w/Sod House
 GD03-029 c.1912 Sod House

Sandstone Construction in the Western Sandhills and High Plains Region

Fig. 9: Sandstone barn in rural Garden County (GD00-026).

Thirty-five properties with confirmed or purported sandstone buildings were recorded during the survey of Garden County. In addition to this, four stone buildings were previously recorded by the NESHPO in Garden County: the Silver Hill Theatre and Dist. #131 school in Oshkosh (GD03-001,-002), a rural farmhouse (GD00-014) and a hall-type school in the Ash Hollow Historic District (GD00-006). Garden County contained a significantly larger number of the sandstone buildings due to the unique local exposure of sandstone outcroppings. The fine sandstone is cemented with silica or lime and is potentially related to the White River geologic formation present in Morrill and Scotts Bluff counties. The application of stone construction was historically evident in Morrill and Deuel counties, but the survey of these counties produced limited numbers of extant resources. These thirty-nine buildings are considered extremely important historic resources for

their rare and locally unique use of stone and grout construction technology. In addition to this, these buildings were also considered significant for their potential association with Kinkaid Act settlement and High Plains Cash Grain, Livestock, and Potato Production.

The era of stone construction was concurrent with the influx of Homestead and Kinkaid Act homesteaders into the region. Along with the homesteaders came the need to build suitable houses and farm buildings. The lack of trees for log construction and the difficulty in cutting sod blocks from the sandy soil prompted claimants in the region to seek alternative building materials. With the abundance of outcroppings in the tributaries of the North Platte River, lime-cemented sandstone proved to be an inexpensive and readily available building material.

The stone buildings recorded in Garden County displayed a variety of wall construction methods. In some cases, the stones were cut and fitted with a common degree of craftsmanship, while other recorded examples consisted of crude unshaped stone walls held together by excessive amounts of a mud and grout mixture, (see Fig. 10).



Fig. 10: Various stone wall construction techniques recorded in Garden County.

(L: GD00-099 , R: GD00-026).

Both methods resulted in massive load-bearing walls measuring up to twenty-four inches in thickness. A common plaster finish was generally applied to the interior rooms and a

grit-like stucco sometimes applied to the exterior. In certain cases, additional coats of stucco were later applied by fastening a wire mesh to the original stucco and then applying numerous coats of the grout mixture.

Despite the variances in quarry methods, the basic concept remained the mortaring of native stones. The use of stone construction represents a significant folk building response to the Western Sandhills and High Plains environment. While resources were available locally for sod construction, the natural environment of the region was not as suitable for its use. The exposed White River formations of the Platte River valley provided a significant alternative building material capable of withstanding the environmental stresses of the region.

Inventory of Properties with Sandstone Buildings in Garden County

GD00-006:	c.1900	Stone School	GD00-062:	c.1911	Stone Barn
GD00-012:	c.1905	Stone House	GD00-078:	c.1910	Stone Outbuilding
GD00-014:	c.1907	Stone House	GD00-081:	c.1908	Stone House
GD00-023:	c.1900	Stone House	GD00-082:	c.1905	Stone House
GD00-026:	c.1900	Stone Ranch	GD00-083:	c.1910	Antelope Valley Church
GD00-030:	c.1905	Stone House	GD00-095:	c.1905	Stone House Ruins
GD00-031:	c.1908	Stone House	GD00-096:	c.1913	Stone House Ruins
GD00-033:	c.1908	Stone Barn	GD00-097:	c.1911	Stone House
GD00-035:	c.1905	Stone House & Outbuilding	GD00-099:	c.1900	Stone & Grout House
GD00-037:	c.1911	Stone House	GD00-100:	c.1900	Stone & Grout House
GD00-042:	c.1903	Stone House	GD00-101:	c.1905	Stone & Grout House
GD00-050:	c.1912	Stone Outbuildings	GD00-102:	c.1907	Stone & Grout House
GD00-051:	c.1905	Stone House	GD00-104:	c.1913	Stone House
GD00-054:	c.1904	Stone House	GD00-105:	c.1906	Stone & Grout House
GD00-055:	c.1910	Stone House	GD00-110:	c.1907	Stone & Grout House
GD00-056:	c.1916	Stone House	GD00-115:	c.1890	Stone House
GD00-057:	c.1908	Stone Outbuildings	GD03-001:	c.1906	Former Oshkosh Opera House
GD00-058:	c.1910	Stone & Grout House	GD03-002:	1904-05	Stone School
GD00-059:	c.1913	Stone & Grout House	GD03-040:	c.1905	Stone Barn
GD00-060:	c.1912	Stone House			

THE IMPACT OF THE KINKAID AND HOMESTEAD ACTS IN THE WESTERN NEBRASKA SAND HILLS

Introduction

The Homestead Act, and more importantly the Kinkaid Act, had a significant impact on the settlement of the Sand Hills region. Under the patronage of these acts, the population of the Sand Hills region increased tremendously. The influx of settlers spawned an era of economic prosperity which witnessed the construction of a significant number of rural buildings. In order to satisfy the requirements of their claim, the first homesteaders and later Kinkaiders, were required to reside on their allotted claims for a specified number of years, which necessitated the construction of buildings for human and animal occupancy.



Due to the significant influence of these acts on the settlement and built environment of the western Sand Hills, a discussion of their provisions and impact follows.

The Homestead Act of 1862

During the first two decades of the settlement of Nebraska (1855-1875), the Sand Hills

region was left largely unsettled and remained part of Nebraska's unorganized territory. The entire region was known as Sioux Indian country and official business was conducted through Cheyenne County. By the late 1870's and early 1880's, the Sand Hills area was beginning to experience its first influx of settlers. The period of initial settlement that followed (1880 to 1890), was one of generally good conditions and settlement increased at a steady rate. It was during this period that the first impact of the Homestead Act of 1862 was felt in the Nebraska Sand Hills region. The first claims filed in the Sandhills counties of the study region (Garden, Arthur, McPherson, and Logan) occurred between 1882 and 1892.

The Homestead Act of 1862 provided up to one-quarter section of "free" land (160 acres) to heads of families who had paid the \$10.00 filing fee and resided on or cultivated the land for five consecutive years. Supplemental to the Homestead Act was the Timber Culture Act approved by Congress in 1873 which provided additional one-quarter sections if the homesteader planted 40 acres of trees and maintained them for ten years.

Prior to the influx of homesteaders into the Sand Hills, a portion of the region was occupied by large cattle companies who used the public domain of the open range for cattle grazing. When the homesteaders began to stake their claims the open range land used by the cattle companies was divided into 160 to 320 acre holdings (Olson, p. 192). The majority of homesteaders, in compliance with the Act, began to cultivate the land of the northern Sand Hills. However, this proved to be an ill-fated decision due to the high susceptibility of the sand -based soil to erosion.

Once the grass covered mantle was plowed, large "blow-outs" resulted and the land which had been cultivated was rendered useless. By the end of the 1880's, the perception of the Sand Hills as an inadequate region for cultivation had been realized (Tubbs, p. 117).



In the 1890's , faced with drought, grasshoppers, and economic depression, many settlers returned east or moved further west and the area experienced its first loss in population. Because of the events of this decade, the ultimate impact of the Homestead Act in the western Sand Hills was relatively short-lived and uneventful. This however, is in marked contrast to the Impact of the Act in Nebraska as a whole.

Under the impetus of the Homestead Act and other land promotions, settlers poured into the state, literally by the thousands. The population of Nebraska increased from 452,402 in 1880 to 1,058,910 in 1890, a total increase of 134% (Olson, p. 195). Also during the decade of the prosperous 1880's, twenty-six counties were organized throughout the state leaving only four counties as yet unorganized. While a great deal of credit must be given to settlement that resulted from the arrival of the railroads, it was through the Homestead Act and related federal legislation that much of Nebraska's rural lands were settled (Olson, p. 157).

Despite the statewide success of the Homestead Act, the only successful use made of

the law in the Sand Hills was by cattlemen who used it to secure stream fronts and water holes. In fact, a great deal of the Sand Hills area had never been homesteaded and was used only for open grazing (Tubbs, p. 118). The condition of the homesteaders in the Sand Hills region during the 1880's convinced much of the population that the settlement of the area under the existing Homestead or Timber Claim Acts was not satisfactory. The land which the settlers could obtain was not sufficient for sustaining a livelihood in the Sand Hills region. Even in the areas of the Sand Hills where cultivation was possible, 160 to 320 acres was simply not an adequate amount for a single-family property.

Failed Settlement Legislation

The original intent of the Homestead Act was to distribute the land in humid areas east of the 100th meridian but it made no provisions for increasing the size of the claim for those areas with insufficient rainfall or inadequate soils (Reynolds, p. 20). The desperate plight of the homesteader in the Sand Hills region gradually gained the support of regional and national politicians. In fact, prior to the drought-stricken 1890's, the Public Lands Commission of 1879 recommended a homestead on grazing lands of four square miles. Cattlemen, however, were naturally satisfied with existing conditions and the four section recommendation was never accepted.

The idea of an enlarged homestead as a means of settling the Sand Hills was revived by T.A. Fort of North Platte following the drought of 1890 (Tubbs, p. 118). Fort proposed homestead claims of two square miles (2,560 acres) with a requirement of five years residence and annual improvements on the land (Tubbs, p. 118). By 1900, Fort had interested the recently elected Congressman William Neville in his new proposal. In 1901, Neville introduced a bill to provide a two-square mile homestead but the proposal never advanced pass the committee stage (Tubbs, p. 118).

The Kinkaid Act of 1904

One year later, in 1902, President Theodore Roosevelt called attention to the inadequacy of the quarter-section homestead in the arid western lands. Although Roosevelt made no specific proposals, congressional action soon followed. The leadership for this action was assumed by Moses P. Kinkaid of O'Neill, Nebraska, who had defeated Neville in the 1902 race for the sixth district congressional seat. In April 1904, Kinkaid introduced a bill to the House of Representatives which would eventually change the settlement history of much of western Nebraska. The intent of the bill was to amend the homestead laws regarding the "unappropriated and unreserved lands in Nebraska," (Reynolds, p. 21).

The bill, as presented to the Committee on Public Lands, recommended homesteads of 1,280 acres in thirty-seven Nebraska counties, to be acquired by a residence of five years and improvements of \$1.25 per acre for each acre claimed. The committee amended the bill to 640 acres and recommended it to the House on April 13, 1904, stating that the increased size of the claim would compensate homesteaders for what the land lacked in quality, (Reynolds p. 22). The report by the committee emphasized that from 1875 to 1904, the land to which the bill applied had been rejected by homesteaders who had settled only on quarter sections good enough to support cultivation. This pattern had left open for settlement the semi-arid grazing lands incapable of supporting a profitable farm on only 160 acre tracts of land (Reynolds, p. 22). The report also stated that, in numerous cases, the homesteaders who filed claims on the unsuitable areas had done so with the intention of selling out to cattlemen once they fulfilled the claim requirements. A committee was appointed to work out the differences between the two bills and after approval of both Houses, the Kinkaid Act was signed by President Roosevelt on April 28, 1904.

The final form of the bill provided homestead units of up to 640 acres and that lands

which could be irrigated should not be open to entry (Reynolds p. 23). The Kinkaid Act applied to the northwestern two-thirds of the state of Nebraska; the entire area involved was west of the 98th meridian.

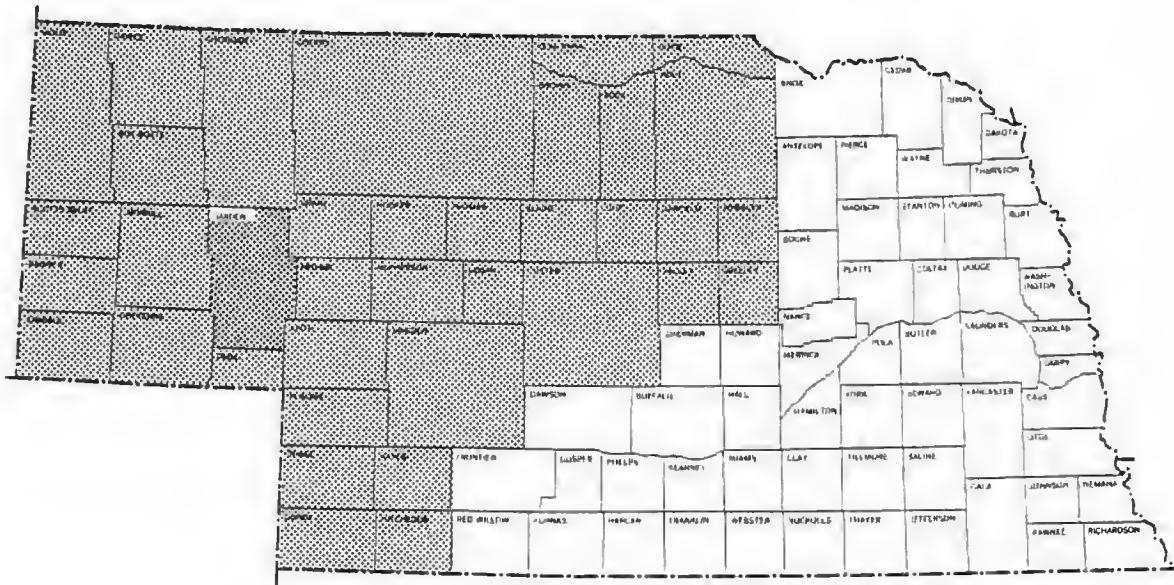


Fig. 7: Approximate area of Nebraska affected by Kinkaid Act legislation.

When the Kinkaid Act went into effect on June 28, 1904, the area included under its provisions was served by seven United States land offices which were located at Alliance, Sidney, O'Neill, McCook, Broken Bow, North Platte, and Valentine, Nebraska. On the first day that 640-acre homesteads were available, crowds converged upon each of these local land offices to file Kinkaid claims (Reynolds, p. 23). Two years later, the *Western Nebraska Observer*, published in Kimball, reported that the houses of the Kinkaiders could be seen all over the countryside and that the settlers were filled with hopes for the future.

Between June 1904, and June 1910, some 1,600 patents were granted for approximately 800,000 acres in the area affected by the Kinkaid Act. Statistics compiled by the Department of the Interior showed a rapid increase in population between 1900 and 1910 in 31 of the 37 counties where the law was applicable. The population of these counties in

1900 was 107,434; and in 1910, 162,217; the increase was over fifty-percent in the first decade of the twentieth-century and the Kinkaid Act was in effect for only six of those years (Reynolds, p. 28).

Kinkaid claims were filed until the end of 1912 when most of the available government land had been filed upon, (Reynolds, p. 25). With the five-year residence provision, this meant the effect of the Kinkaid law was finally determinable in 1917. In addition to the patents filed from 1904 to 1910, a total of 18,919 patents were granted for 8,933,527 acres between November 1910 and the close of the 1917 fiscal year. After 1917, the acreage annually alienated rapidly declined as most homesteaders who had filed Kinkaid claims or additional entries, had completed their final proofs. However, as late as 1941, one Kinkaid patent was issued for a 40-acre additional entry. (Reynolds, p. 26).

While many of the claims were filed in good faith, the Kinkaid Act did provide the opportunity for fraudulent land schemes. In January 1905, the *Western Nebraska Observer* pointed out that many of the homesteaders had erected shanties on their claims but were not living on the premises. In the summer of 1905, the *Observer* again noted that very little in the way of improvements had been made and that only a few entryman had taken a claim in good faith with the intention of establishing a home. (Reynolds, p. 24). In 1909, the Commissioner of the General Land Office reported that in approximately twenty-five percent of the filings, the proof was found to be deficient, and perhaps fraudulent. In those cases final proof was refused.

The soddy was described as the most common and the most ideal for Kinkaid home because it was easily and cheaply constructed. The soddy was cool in summer and warm in winter which were important features in the extreme climate of western Nebraska. (Reynolds, p. 27). In March 1910, the *Observer* described the improvements on one of the better homesteads in Kimball County. The Kinkaider had lived on his claim for one year, and his

improvements, in addition to 40 fenced acres, consisted of a four-room house, a barn, a well, a hen house, and a windmill. (Reynolds, p. 24).

In 1916 the First Assistant Secretary of the Interior Department reported that dwellings of stone, cement, or frame construction, plastered and provided with conveniences, had generally supplanted the original sod dwellings of Kinkaiders. He described barns and silos that had been built for protecting livestock and storing crops.

Conclusion

The Kinkaid Act of 1904 had a tremendous impact on the settlement of the Nebraska Sandhills region. Between June 1904, and June 1914, a total of 6,726,516 acres had been patented out of an approximate total of 11,000,000 acres that were opened to one-section settlement. Of the total acreage patented 6,411,963 acres were in the hands of what were termed small holders, and only 316,453 acres were in the hands of large holders, or those possessing over 2,000 acres, (Reynolds, p. 28).

The period of historic importance for this act was 1904 to approximately 1920, and during this time, the intent to disburse the unreserved lands of Nebraska had proved successful. By the end of 1916, seventy-two percent of the acres claimed were still owned by the original filing parties.

Through the promoted development of the lands, the Kinkaid Act had increased the population and advanced the public welfare in the Sandhills region of Nebraska.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE WORK

Throughout the duration of the Garden County survey, random observations were recorded concerning historic context themes which appear potentially significant based on their extant material resources. The general impressions recorded by the survey team were then combined with a post-survey analysis of all documented properties to determine recommendations for future work. The recommendations include National Register nominations as presented in the Preliminary Inventory (see p. 20-83) and suggestions for historic context development.

Potential Historic Context Reports

The Agriculture Historic Context reports of potential significance within the survey area include Sand Hills Range Livestock Production (H.C.: 08.08), and High Plains Cash Grain, Livestock and Potato Production. A summary of the major components of these farming types is found in the Agriculture inventory starting on page 33. The number of associated properties and the importance of agriculture to the region and state makes this an apparent choice.

In addition, two Settlement related contexts appear significant with regard to the surveyed properties in Garden County: Dwelling in Dispersed and Clustered Settlement (H.C.: 16.05) and Land Ownership: The Kinkaid Act of 1904 (H.C.: 16.01). The impact of the Kinkaid and Homestead Acts on the settlement of the western Sandhills and High Plains is discussed further on pages 93 through 100.

Other topics of potential multiple property development include the study of native material buildings in Garden County. This study would focus upon the further research of sod and sandstone buildings identified by the survey. For a more detailed discussion of the buildings related to sod and sandstone construction, please refer to page 84.

Conclusion

It is the belief of those associated with this project that people, and the places in which they live, are the raw materials of history. A community, its inhabitants and its development through time are proper subjects for our contemplation, for it is through such studies that we gain a fuller comprehension of the present. The value of cultural material studies and preservation of historic buildings was politically expressed on a national level in 1966 by Senator Edmund Muskie of Maine as he addressed the eighty-ninth Congress of the United States regarding the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act.

"In less than 200 years, America has grown from a sparsely populated agricultural community of States to the most urbanized and technologically advanced Nation in the world. During these 20 decades and before, American genius has created marvels of mortar and stone... In the next four decades alone, our expanding population and urbanization will require more construction than we have witnessed during our first 20 decades. This means that much of what we have created to date is threatened by the thrust of bulldozers or the corrosion of neglect. In many instances, efforts to preserve sites of architectural and historic value will be too late. America must move promptly and vigorously to protect the important legacies which remain. This we can achieve without blunting our progress. And this achievement will enrich our progress. With sensitive planning, the past and the future can live as neighbors and contribute jointly to the quality of our civilization."

In the year 1990, America has now passed the halfway point in the four decade period of expansion delineated by Senator Muskie. Have we achieved the balance of preserving our past while progressing toward the future? In some cases we have, but in many others we have not. This is not to say that all older buildings are worthy of preservation. Many of the older buildings which stand in the path of necessary expansion have rightfully been removed. However, the heightening of public awareness and the education of our elected public officials towards the concept of historic preservation is a topic not open to subjectivity. It is imperative that the documentation and review of threatened historic

buildings be conducted and appropriate decisions be made regarding the cultural value of historic buildings. It is toward this goal that the Western Sandhills and High Plains region has been researched and documented. It is the hope of those involved with this project that the historic properties within the region will be enjoyed by many future generations of Nebraska citizens.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: Garden County Town and Rural Inventory Listings of All Surveyed Properties

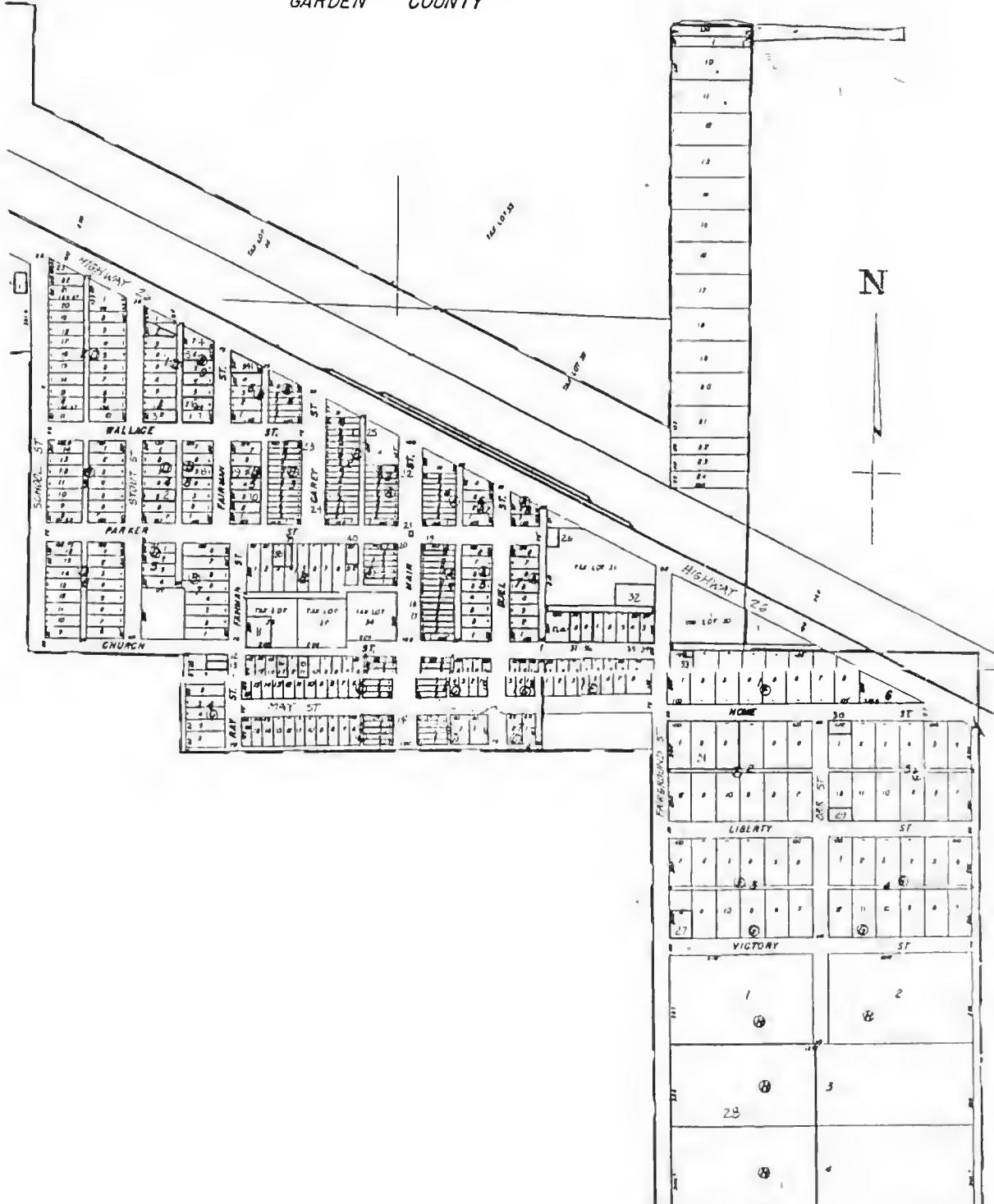
GD00: RURAL, GARDEN COUNTY INVENTORY

NEHBS NUMBER	DATE	RESOURCE/COMMON NAME	HISTORIC CONTEXT	BLDG	SITE	CONTRIBUTING STRU. OBJ.	PROPERTY TYPE	DOE
GD00-001-6		ASH HOLLOW HISTORIC DISTRICT	13.02.01.	3	5	0	3	NRHP
GD00-007,8	C1935	CRESCENT LAKE WILDLIFE REFUGE	07.06	2	1	0	0	C
GD00-009	C1890	LEWELLEN U.P. DEPOT	13.03.01	1	0	0	0	C
GDDD-01D	C1920	ANTELOPE VALLEY SCHOOL	06.01.01	1	0	0	0	C
GD00-011	C1928	ANTELOPE VALLEY GRANGE	05.03.01	1	0	0	0	E
GDDD-D12	C1906	OSHKOSH U.P. DEPOT	13.03.01	1	0	0	0	C
GD00-013	C1910	SITE OF ELDRED ADOBE HOUSE	08.08	4	0	0	0	C
GD00-014	C1915	RANCH	08.07	4	0	4	0	E
GD00-015	C1910	ABAN RANCH	08.07	6	0	0	2	P
GD00-016	C1913	AGRICULTURE OUTBUILDINGS	08.07	3	0	0	0	C
GDDD-017	C1917	FARM	08.07	5	0	0	1	C
GD00-018	C1907	FARM	08.07	4	0	0	0	C
GD00-019	C1908	ABAN FARM	08.07	1	0	0	1	C
GD00-020	C1916	FARM	08.07	5	0	0	2	C
GD00-021	C1912	FARM	08.07	7	0	0	0	P
GD00-022	C1904	ABAN FARM	08.07	4	0	0	0	C
GD00-023	C1900	ABAN HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	E
GD00-024	C1921	FARM	08.07	9	0	0	0	C
GD00-025	C1913	FARM	08.07	10	0	0	1	C
GD00-026	C1890	ABAN FARM W/ROCK BLDGS	08.07	6	0	0	0	E
GD00-027	C1909	FARM	08.07	3	0	0	1	C
GD00-028	C1905	FARMHOUSE	08.07	2	0	0	0	C
GD00-029	C1922	KOWANDA CHURCH & CEM.	02.06.01	1	1	0	2	C
GD00-030	C1905	ABAN HOUSE	16.05, 08.	1	0	0	0	E
GD00-031	C1908	ABAN FARM W/STONE HSE	08.07	7	0	0	1	E
GD00-032	C1910	FARM	08.07	5	0	0	0	C
GD00-033	C1908	FARM	08.07	4	0	0	1	P
GD00-034	C1925	FARM	08.07	5	0	0	0	C
GD00-035	C1905	FARM W/STONE HOUSE	08.07	5	0	0	2	E
GDDD-036	C1911	FARM	08.07	4	0	0	3	C
GD00-037	C1911	FARM W/STONE BLDGS	08.07	3	0	0	2	P
GD00-038	C1908	ABAN FAMR	08.07	2	0	0	0	C
GD00-039	C1917	FARM	08.07	3	0	0	0	C
GD00-040	C1920	ABAN FARM	08.07	3	0	1	0	P
GD00-041	C1907	ABAN HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	C
GD00-042	C1903	STONE HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	1	E
GD00-043	C1914	ABAN RANCH	08.08	5	0	0	0	C
GD00-044	C1901	ABAN HOUSE	08.08, 16	3	0	0	1	C
GD00-045	C1923	PETERSON RANCH	08.08	17	0	0	4	P

NEHBS NUMBER	DATE	RESOURCE/COMMON NAME	HISTORIC CONTEXT	CONTRIBUTING			PROPERTY TYPE	OOE
				BLOG	SITE	STRU. OBJ.		
G000-046	C1925	MULE SHOE BAR RANCH	08.08	10	0	1	2	08.1
G000-047	C1910	BUSKE RANCH	08.08	4	0	0	1	08.1
G000-048	C1918	ABAN SCHOOL	06.01.01	1	0	0	0	16.3.1:1
G000-049	C1917	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1
GD00-050	C1912	RANCH BLOGS	08.08	2	0	0	2	08.10.7.2
G000-051	C1905	RANCH HOUSE	16.05	3	0	0	0	16.5.1
G000-052	C1916	ABAN RANCH	08.08	4	0	0	0	08.1
G000-053	C1910	RANCH	08.08	2	0	0	0	08.1
G000-054	C1904	ABAN RANCH W/STONE HOUSE	16.05	3	0	0	1	08.1
GD00-055	C1910	ABAN RANCH W/STONE HOUSE	16.05	3	0	0	0	08.1
GD00-056	C1916	ABAN RANCH W/STONE HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1
GD00-057	C1908	ABAN RANCH W/STONE BLOGS	08.08	2	0	0	1	08.1
GD00-058	C1910	ABAN RANCH	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1
G000-059	C1913	ABAN RANCH HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	1	16.5.1
G000-060	C1912	ABAN RANCH	16.05	1	0	0	1	16.5.1
GD00-061	C1910	ABAN RANCH	08.08	4	0	0	0	08.1
G000-062	C1911	RANCH	08.08	3	0	0	0	08.1
GD00-063	C1914	RANCH	08.08	10	0	0	0	08.1
GD00-064	C1907	RANCH	08.08	6	0	0	1	08.1
GD00-065	C1912	RANCH	08.08	6	0	0	2	08.1
GD00-066	C1910	ABAN HOUSE	16.05, 08	1	0	0	0	16.5.1
GD00-067	C1914	RANCH	08.08	7	0	0	2	08.1, 11.4.3:1
G000-068	C1913	ABAN RANCH	08.08	10	0	0	1	08.1
G000-069	C1920	RANCH	08.08	4	0	0	2	08.1
G000-070	C1913	RANCH	08.08	10	0	0	4	08.1, 11.4.3:1
G000-071	C1910	SOD HOUSE RUINS	16.05	0	0	0	1	16.5.1, 11.4.3:1
G000-072	C1911	ABAN SOD HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	2	16.5.1, 11.4.3:1
GD00-073	C1912	RANCH W/SOD HOUSE	08.07	3	0	0	2	08.1, 11.4.3:1
G000-074	C1914	RANCH	08.07	4	0	0	1	08.1
G000-075	C1920	HOUSE	16.05	3	0	0	1	16.5.1
G000-076	C1907	RANCH	08.08	5	0	0	1	08.1
GD00-077	C1923	RANCH	08.08	3	0	0	0	08.1
G000-078	C1910	ABAN RANCH	08.08	4	0	0	1	08.1
GD00-079	C1925	ABAN RANCH	08.08	6	0	0	1	08.1
G000-080	C1930	DIVERSION DAM	08.07	0	0	1	0	08.4.2
GD00-081	C1908	STONE HOUSE ON N.C. RANCH	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1
G000-082	C1905	RANCH W/STONE HOUSE	08.07	3	0	0	1	08.1
G000-083	C1910	ANTELOPE VALLEY CHURCH & CEM.	02.00	1	1	0	0	02.1.4, 02.3.1
G000-084	C1912	ABAN RANCH	08.08	3	0	0	1	08.1
GD00-085	C1907	RANCH	08.08	3	0	0	2	08.1
G000-086	C1907	ABAN RANCH	08.08	4	0	0	2	08.1
GD00-087	C1923	RANCH	08.08	5	0	0	2	08.1
GD00-088	C1909	RANCH	16.05	3	0	0	1	08.1
GD00-089	C1905	ABAN RANCH	08.08	3	0	0	1	08.1
G000-090	C1907	ABAN RANCH	08.08	2	0	0	1	08.1
G000-091	C1909	ABAN RANCH	08.08	1	0	0	1	16.5.1
GD00-092	C1911	RANCH	08.08	4	0	0	1	08.1
GD00-093	C1931	FORMER PUMPING STATION	08.07	1	0	0	0	09.3.2.1

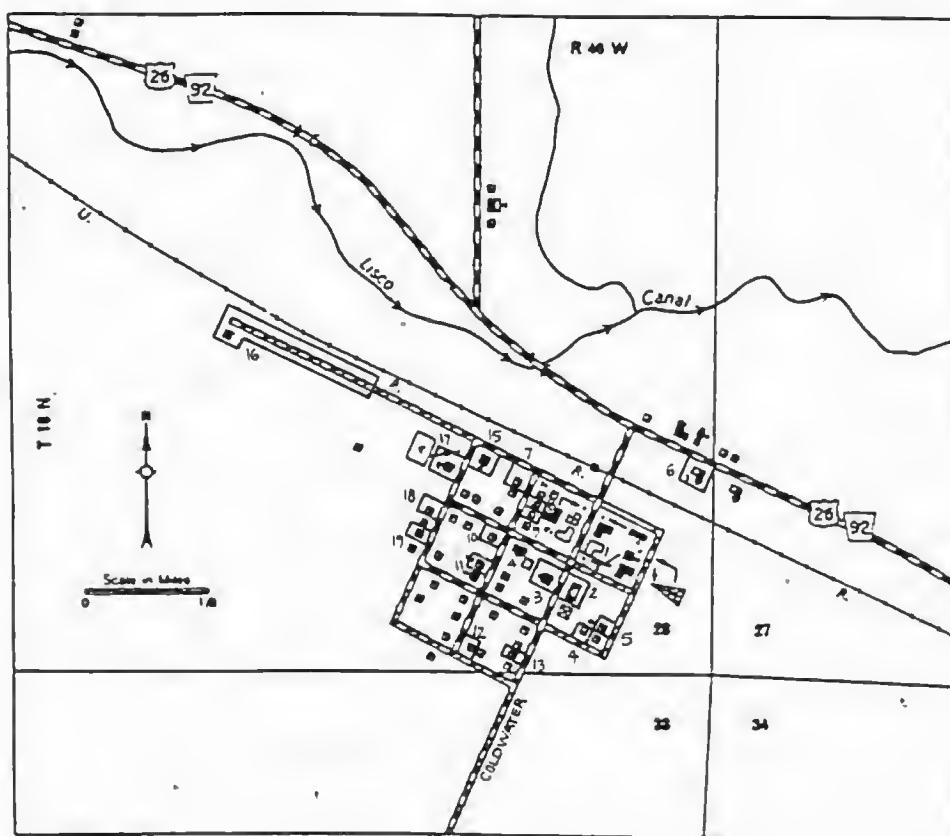
NEHBS NUMBER	DATE	RESOURCE/COMMON NAME	HISTORIC CONTEXT	CONTRIBUTING			PROPERTY TYPE	DOE	
				BLDG	SITE	STRU. OBJ.			
GD00-094	C1925	RANCH	08.08	5	0	0	1	08.1	C
GD00-095	C1905	ROCK HOUSE RUINS	16.05, 08	1	0	0	2	08.1	C
GD00-096	C1913	ABAN RANCH	08.08	7	0	0	2	08.1	C
GD00-097	C1911	RANCH	08.07	2	0	0	1	08.1	C
GD00-098	C1907	ABAN RANCH	08.07	3	0	0	0	08.1	C
GD00-099	C1900	ROCK & GROUT HOUSE	08.07	4	0	0	0	08.1	P
GD00-100	C1900	ABAN HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD00-101	C1905	ABAN HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	1	16.5.1	C
GD00-102	C1907	THUNDER VALLEY RANCH	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD00-103	1931	OREGON TRAIL MARKER	03.13.02	0	0	0	1	07.5.1.2.5	E
GD00-104	C1913	RANCH	08.07	5	0	0	0	08.1	P
GD00-105	C1906	ABAN RANCH	16.05	2	0	0	1	16.5.1	P
GD00-106	C1938	FRMR SCHOOL	06.01.01	2	0	0	0	06.3.1:1	E
GD00-107	C1900	ABAN RANCH	0807	9	0	0	4	08.1	P
GD00-108	C1912	FARM	08.07	8	0	0	2	08.1	P
GD00-109	C1909	ABAN HOUSE ON N.C. RANCH	16.05	1	0	0	1	16.5.1	P
GD00-110	C1907	ABAN HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD00-111	C1908	ABAN HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD00-112	C1923	ABAN SCHOOL	06.01.01	2	0	0	0	06.3.1:1	C
GD00-113	C1919	FARM	08.07	2	0	0	0	08.1	C
GD00-114	C1907	ABAN HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD00-115	C1890	STONE HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	E
GD00-116	1913	OREGON TRAIL MARKER	03.13.02	0	0	0	1	07.5.1.2.5	C
GD00-117	C1900	ABAN RANCH	08.07	4	0	0	0	08.1	P

*GDØI:
LEWELLEN, NEBRASKA
GARDEN COUNTY*



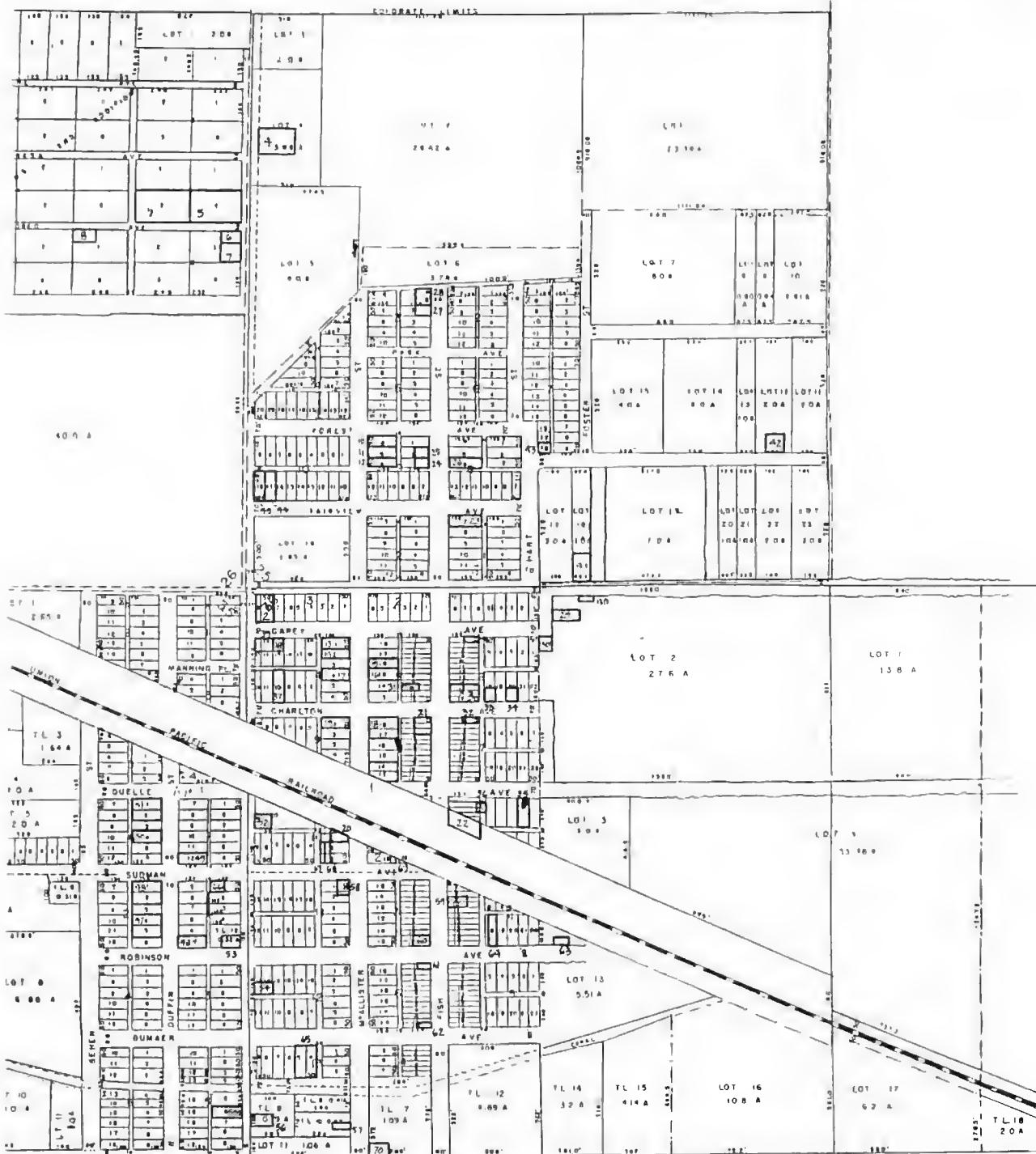
GD01: LEWELLEN, GARDEN COUNTY INVENTORY

NEHBS NUMBER	DATE	RESOURCE/COMMON NAME	HISTORIC CONTEXT	CONTRIBUTING				PROPERTY TYPE	DOE
				BLDG	SITE	STRU.	OBJ.		
GD01-001	1920	LEWELLEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	06.01.02	1	0	0	0	06.3.2	E
GD01-002	C1909	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD01-003	C1926	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD01-004	C1914	HOUSE	16.05	3	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD01-005	C1911	ABAN HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD01-006	C1903	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD01-007	C1924	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD01-008	C1924	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD01-009	C1910	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD01-010	C1905	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD01-011	C1916	GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH	02.03.01	1	0	0	0	02.1.4	P
GD01-012	C1912	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD01-013	C1910	ABAN HOUSE	16.05	4	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD01-014	C1912	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	P
GD01-015	C1911	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD01-016	C1907	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD01-017	C1930	ROBERTSON'S GARAGE	13.02	1	0	0	0	13.3.3.4	C
GD01-018	C1919	ABAN COMMERCIAL BLDG	12.02.07	1	0	0	0	12.1	P
GD01-019	C1917	BANK OF LEWELLEN	15.05.03	1	0	0	0	15.1.1	E
GD01-020	C1911	COMMERCIAL BUILDING	12.02.07	1	0	0	0	12.1.1	C
GD01-021	1925	FLAGPOLE	03.07	0	0	0	1	07.3.1.2	C
GD01-022	C1918	FORMER EGGER HOTEL	12.02.07	1	0	0	0	12.3.1	C
GD01-023	C1922	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD01-024	C1905	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD01-025	C1917	COMMERCIAL GARAGE	13.02	1	0	0	0	13.3.3.4	P
GD01-026	C1927	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD01-027	C1936	HOUSE	16.05	3	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD01-028	C1936	FAIRGROUNDS	07.03	3	0	0	1	07.4.5	C
GD01-029	C1913	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD01-030	C1922	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD01-031	C1936	CARL BEARD MEMORIAL PARK	07.06	0	0	0	1	07.5.1.2	C
GD01-032	C1946	ABAN OREGON TRAIL MOTEL	07.05, 13	3	0	0	0	12.3.2	C
GD01-033	C1910	COMMERCIAL BUILDING	12.02.07	1	0	0	0	12.1	C
GD01-034	C1904	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD01-035	C1926	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD01-036	C1923	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD01-037	C1924	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD01-038	C1909	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD01-039	C1912	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD01-040	C1905	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD01-041	C1940	FORMER LITTLE MAC CABINS	07.05, 13	5	0	0	0	12.3.2	P



GD02: LISCO, GARDEN COUNTY INVENTORY

NEHBS NUMBER	DATE	RESOURCE/COMMON NAME	HISTORIC CONTEXT	CONTRIBUTING BLDG	PROPERTY SITE	DOE STRU. OBJ.	TYPE
GD02-001	C1916	FORMER STERLING LUMBER CO.	12.02.07	1	0	0	11.4.2
GD02-002	C1909	FORMER LIVERY/GARAGE	13.02	1	0	0	12.3.3
GD02-003	C1919	FORMER MITCHELL GARAGE	13.02	1	0	0	13.3.3.4
GD02-004	C1938	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	16.5.1
GD02-005	C1921	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	16.5.1
GD02-006	C1919	ELEVATOR	12.05	1	0	0	12.2.3
GD02-007	C1927	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	16.5.1
GD02-008	C1917	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	16.5.1
GD02-009	C1923	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	16.5.1
GD02-010	C1925	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	16.5.1
GD02-011	C1922	CHURCH & PARSONAGE	02.04.01	1	0	0	02.4.3
GD02-012	C1916	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	16.5.1
GD02-013	C1921	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	16.5.1
GD02-014	C1910	COMMERCIAL BUILDING	12.02.07	1	0	0	12.1
GD02-015	C1915	ST. GALL CATHOLIC CHURCH	02.01.01	1	0	0	02.1.4:1
GD02-016	C1907	HOUSE	08.07	4	0	0	08.1
GD02-017	1922	LISCO GRADE SCHOOL	06.01.02	2	0	0	06.3.2
GD02-018	C1919	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	16.5.1
GD02-019	C1920	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	16.5.1



GD03: OSHKOSH, GARDEN COUNTY INVENTORY

NEHBS NUMBER	DATE	RESOURCE/COMMON NAME	HISTORIC CONTEXT	BLDG	CONTRIBUTING SITE	PROPERTY STRU. OBJ.	DOE TYPE
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GD03-001	C1906	FORMER OSHKOSH OPERA HOUSE	07.07	1	0	0	1	07.1.4	P
GD03-002	1904-05	SCHOOL	06.01	1	0	0	0	06.3	E
GD03-003	1927	GARDEN COUNTY COURTHOUSE	04.03	1	0	0	0	04.1.7	NRHP
GD03-004	C1940	HOUSE	16.05	3	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD03-005	C1903	ABAN HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1	C

NEHBS NUMBER	DATE	RESOURCE/COMMON NAME	HISTORIC CONTEXT	CONTRIBUTING			PROPERTY TYPE	DOE
				BLDG	SITE	STRU. OBJ.		
GD03-006	C1920	ABAN FILLING STATION/GAR	13.02	1	0	0	2	13.3.3.3, 13.3.3.4 P
GD03-007	C1917	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GD03-008	C1914	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GD03-009	C1913	HOUSE	16.05	3	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GD03-010	C1923	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GD03-011	C1917	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GD03-012	C1901	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GD03-013	C1914	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GD03-014	C1915	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GD03-015	C1914	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GD03-016	C1912	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GD03-017	C1911	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GD03-018	C1910	CHURCH	02.	2	0	0	0	02.1.4, 02.4.3 P
GD03-019	C1915	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GD03-020	C1910	DUPLEX	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.3 P
GD03-021	C1907	HOUSE	16.05	3	0	0	0	16.5.1 E
GD03-022	C1900	BEARD GRAIN COMPANY	12.05	2	0	1	0	12.2.4 P
GD03-023	C1903	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GD03-024	C1910	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GD03-025	C1910	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GD03-026	C1913	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GD03-027	C1910	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GD03-028	C1920	HOUSE	16.05	3	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GD03-029	C1912	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1 E
GD03-030	C1915	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GD03-031	C1945	GARDEN CO. VFW POST #5379	05.02	1	0	0	0	05.1.1 P
GD03-032	C1947	APARTMENTS	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.5 C
GD03-033	C1905	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GD03-034	C1914	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GD03-035	C1905	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GD03-036	C1930	WATER TOWER	15.01	0	0	1	0	15.5.2 C
GD03-037	C1903	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GD03-038	C1907	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1 E
GD03-039	C1907	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1 E
GD03-040	C1900	STONE BARN	08.07	1	0	0	0	08.1.02 P
GD03-041	C1911	HOUSE	16.05	4	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GD03-042	C1905	HOUSE	16.05	3	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GD03-043	C1900	HOUSE	16.05	3	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GD03-044	C1927	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1 P
GD03-045	C1927	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1 P
GD03-046	C1914	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GD03-047	C1922	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GD03-048	C1921	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GD03-049	C1909	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1 E
GD03-050	C1911	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1 E
GD03-051	C1910	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1 P
GD03-052	C1910	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1 C

NEHBS NUMBER	DATE	RESOURCE/COMMON NAME	HISTORIC CONTEXT	CONTRIBUTING			PROPERTY TYPE	DOE
				BLDG	SITE	STRU. OBJ.		
GD03-053	C1917	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD03-054	C1937	DUPLEX	16.05	1	0	0	16.5.3	C
GD03-055	C1910	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD03-056	C1908	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD03-057	C1913	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD03-058	C1930	APARTMENT BLDG	16.05	1	0	0	16.5.5	P
GD03-059	1927	A.F. & A.M./COMM. BLDG.	12.02.07	1	0	0	12.1.1, 05.1.1	E
GD03-060	1929	G.H. MORRIS HOTEL	12.02.07	1	0	0	12.3.1	P
GD03-061	1917	OSHKOSH STATE BANK	15.05.03	1	0	0	15.1.1	E
GD03-062	C1910	COMMERCIAL BLDG	12.02.07	1	0	0	12.1.1	C
GD03-063	C1911	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	16.5.1	P
GD03-064	C1925	FRMR POOL HALL	07.06	1	0	0	07.6.6	P
GD03-065	C1950	FRMR MOTEL	13.02	3	0	0	12.3.2	E
GD03-066	C1912	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD03-067	C1925	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD03-068	C1920	DUPLEX	16.05	1	0	0	16.5.3	C
GD03-069	C1922	COMMERCIAL BLDG	12.02.07	1	0	0	12.1	P
GD03-070	C1929	GAS STATION W/GARAGE	13.02	2	0	0	13.3.3.3	C

GD04: RACKETT, GARDEN COUNTY INVENTORY

NEHBS NUMBER	DATE	RESOURCE/COMMON NAME	HISTORIC CONTEXT	CONTRIBUTING			PROPERTY TYPE	DOE
				BLDG	SITE	STRU. OBJ.		
GD04-001	C1909	ABANDONED HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	16.5.1	C
GD04-002	C1926	FORMER RACKETT GRANGE #318	05.03.01	2	0	0	05.1.1	P

GLOSSARY

This Glossary lists architectural styles common in Nebraska during the mid-to-late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Style names are followed by dates suggesting the general time span, and brief descriptions identifying characteristic features. These summaries were defined by the NESHPO and included in their publication "Historic Places: The National Register for Nebraska" (NEBRASKAland, Jan.-Feb., 1989).

Italianate 1870-1890

A popular style for houses, these square, rectangular, or L-shaped two-story buildings have low-pitched hip roofs, with wide eaves usually supported by heavy brackets, tall narrow windows, and front porches. In some cases, the roof may be topped with a cupola.

Queen Anne 1880-1900

A style which enjoyed widespread popularity in the state, these two-story houses have asymmetrical facades and steeply pitched rooflines of irregular shape. Characteristics include a variety of surface textures on walls, prominent towers, tall chimneys, and porches with gingerbread trim.

County Capitol 1880-1910

This was a popular form for courthouses in the state and was inspired by the U.S. Capitol in Washington D.C. Usually situated on a courthouse square, these square-shaped monumental buildings exhibit corner pavilions, a prominent central domed tower, and Neo-Classical or Romanesque styling.

Romanesque Revival 1880-1920

These buildings are of masonry construction and usually show some rough-faced stonework. The Roman or round-topped arch is a key feature. Facades are asymmetrical and most examples have towers, brick corbelling and horizontal stone banding.

Late Gothic Revival 1880-1930

A later version of the Gothic style, these buildings are generally larger and use heavy masonry construction. In churches, masonry is sometimes used throughout the structure. The pointed-arch window opening remains a key feature, however designs are more subdued than those of the earlier period.

GLOSSARY

Eclectic 1890-1910

An eclectic building displays a combination of architectural elements from various styles. It usually resulted when a house designed in one architectural style was remodeled.

Shingle 1890-1920

Characteristics include a two-story asymmetrical house with hip, gable, or gambrel roof; walls covered wholly or in part with wood shingles; little or no ornamentation; and extensive porches.

Neo-Classical Revival 1900-1920

Front facades are usually dominated by a full-height porch with the roof supported by classical columns. Symmetrically arranged buildings show monumental proportions, balanced windows, and a central entry.

Renaissance Revival 1900-1920

The style is characterized by formalism in plans, raised basements, low hipped roofs covered with clay tiles, symmetrical facades with wide overhanging eaves, arched entries and second story porches. Window treatments vary from story to story and are flat or round arched.

Georgian or Colonial Revival 1900-1930

A style characterized by a symmetrical facade enriched with classical detail, gable or hip roof, and eaves detailed as classical cornices. The standard window is rectangular with a double-hung sash. The Palladian window is often used as a focal point.

Spanish Colonial Revival 1900-1920

These buildings, which have a southwestern flavor, show masonry construction usually covered with plaster or stucco, red-tiled hipped roofs, and arcaded porches. Some facades are enriched with curvilinear and decorated roof lines.

Prairie 1900-1930

This movement, popularized by Frank Lloyd Wright, emphasized the integration of a building and its site. Elements of the style include a low-pitched roof line with wide over-hanging eaves, two stories high with one-story porch, and an overall horizontal emphasis in the design.

GLOSSARY

Period 1920-1930

Influenced by the styles of medieval English and French country cottages, these houses are usually of two stories and display irregular massing, steeply pitched roofs with slate or clay tile covering, massive chimneys, half-timbering, casement windows, and attached garages.

Modernistic 1930-1940

Art Deco, the earlier Modernistic phase, was used primarily for public and commercial buildings and is characterized by angular composition, with towers and vertical projections and smooth wall surfaces with stylized and geometric motifs, including zigzags and chevrons. Art Moderne, the later version, shows smooth wall finishes without surface ornamentation, asymmetrical facades with a horizontal emphasis, flat roofs, rounded corners, and bands of windows or curved window glass creating a streamlined effect.

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The primary objective of the survey was to provide a preliminary characterization of the historic resources extant in the Western Nebraska Sandhills and High Plains region. The effort to document properties contributing to the context of Nebraska's historic architecture produces information which not only serves as a resource in preservation management, but also expresses a genuine concern for the history of the Great Plains built environment.



The Nebraska Historic Building Survey is an ongoing statewide study designed to identify and evaluate properties within a selected area to determine whether they may be of historic, architectural, archeological, or cultural significance.

